Information & Communication Technology

Rationale:
Information and Communications Technology (ICT) is the hardware and software that enables data to be digitally processed, stored and communicated. ICT can be used to access, process, manage and present information; model and control events; construct new understanding; and communicate with others. The need to be conversant in ICT and to be able to control ICT to your own advantage has never been more important, and will become increasingly vital in the lives of all people.

Aims:
Information and Communications Technology focuses on providing students with the tools to transform their learning and to enrich their learning environment. The knowledge, skills and behaviours identified for this domain enable students to:
• develop new thinking and learning skills that produce creative and innovative insights
• develop more productive ways of working and solving problems individually and collaboratively
• create information products that demonstrate their understanding of concepts, issues, relationships and processes
• express themselves in contemporary and socially relevant ways
• communicate locally and globally to solve problems and to share knowledge
• understand the implications of the use of ICT and their social and ethical responsibilities as users of ICT.

Implementation:
• The ICT domain is an essential component of the Interdisciplinary Learning strand of the Victorian Essential Learning Standards.
• All students at our school will study a sequential ICT program which will be embedded in all subject areas and taught by teachers throughout the school.
• The ICT program will be based upon the learning focus standards contained within the Victorian Essential Learning Standards.
• Student’s individual abilities must be measured at the commencement of each unit of work, and learning opportunities must be provided that cater for the identified needs of each student.
• ICT activities that reflect the topics being studied at school, and are appropriate to each child’s ability, will form a regular component of each student’s homework regime.
• Student progress in all three dimensions of ICT will be reported in half and end of year academic reports.
• A senior staff member will be appointed to oversee the implementation of ICT across the school, and coordinate the assessment of ICT from all staff.
• Substantial budgets that provide for the needs of the ICT program, including the ICT centre, pods and professional development will be developed by the ICT coordinator in consultation with all staff and resourced by school council.

Evaluation:
• This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three-year review cycle.