



# Rosewood Downs PS No. 5087

## Rosewood Downs PS eSmart ICT Policy

### Rationale

At Rosewood Downs PS we embrace and encourage the use of information and communication technologies. Despite the many benefits of effective and responsible ICT use, there are risks inherent when communicating and collaborating with others online. The school has a responsibility to educate students in the safe and ethical use of digital technologies and is committed to reducing students' exposure to the potential risks that come with working in online environments (such as cyber-bullying and online sexual predation) when using a range of ICT devices.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the RDPS Acceptable Use Policy and the RDPS Student Engagement Policy.

### Aims

The aims of this policy are to;

- Establish a culture where Rosewood Downs PS students are discerning users of ICT who reflect the values of the school by behaving in an appropriate acceptable manner when working in online environments
- Foster a safe and supportive learning environment when students are using ICT to work or communicate online with others
- Educate Rosewood Downs PS students to be safe, responsible and ethical users of Information and Communication Technologies
- communicate expectations for responsible online behaviour to both students and parents and work together to apply consequences for inappropriate behaviour

### Implementation

- Students are explicitly taught the skills needed to stay safe as well as possible dangers they need to be aware of when using ICT to access the internet.
- Students from Grades 2 – 6 are required to sign an acceptable use policy for ICT at RDPS which has been read and co-signed by parents. Any breach of this policy will be addressed and may result in the students losing access to ICT and other consequences in accordance with the Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy.
- Teachers at RDPS will supervise students when using ICT and the school will provide a filtered internet service whilst acknowledging that we cannot guarantee full protection from inappropriate content
- In the event of inappropriate use by students, the school will respond promptly and advise students and parents of consequences for the behaviour, which may include loss of ICT privileges.
- As part of their obligation for the responsible use of ICT, students are encouraged and advised to report incidents to a teacher immediately if;
  - They have experienced or witnessed an incident of cyberbullying
  - They access sites that are unsuitable or inappropriate, or see others accessing such sites
  - They find themselves in the situation of a 'bystander' (eg in a group chat) and feel that someone else's online behaviour has threatened the welfare or wellbeing of another student

- All incidents of Cyberbullying must be referred to the Principal and Assistant Principals for investigation and any action taken will be in line with the Student Engagement Policy.

### **Evaluation and Review**

This policy will be reviewed in 2018 and every four years thereafter in line with the school review process

<b>Date:</b> November 2016	<b>Ratified by School Council:</b> October 2017	<b>Due for review:</b> Mid-2018 (in line with school review)
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