

eSMART POLICY

Rationale

Brunswick South West Primary (BSWPS) has an obligation to provide a safe, secure and caring environment. BSWPS maintains a zero tolerance policy to the bullying of students and staff. Fundamentally, cyber-safety is an area that requires a high level of community cooperation. The internet and digital technologies are now very much a part of life and learning. As an increasingly interactive medium, it brings with it exciting educational opportunities, but at the same time it also brings risks.

Aims

To establish clear expectations for the BSWP community with regard to cyber (online) safety.

Definitions:

Cyber-safety refers to the safe use of the internet and ICT equipment/devices including mobile phones.

Cyberbullying is when an individual, or group, use the internet, mobile phones, or other technologies to intentionally hurt another person or group of people. Cyberbullying is often covert bullying.

ICT Equipment/devices in this document includes, but is not limited to, computers, laptops, storage devices, cameras, all types of mobile phones, video and audio players/receivers, social networking sites, and any other technologies as they come into use.

Digital Literacy is the ability to locate, organise, understand, evaluate, and create information using digital technology. It involves a working knowledge of current technology, and an understanding of how it can be used. Digitally literate people can communicate and work efficiently with a wide range of technologies.

Implementation

1. All members of the school community should be aware of and have knowledge of the documents listed above.
2. A copy of the Acceptable Use Agreement must be displayed in all classrooms.
3. All teachers must go over the Acceptable Agreement each term and more often if the need arises.
4. All 3-6 students must annually sign a copy of the Acceptable Use Agreement.
5. Documentation (proforma) of serious breaches of the above agreements must be attached to students' signed Acceptable Use Agreement. This must also be included in student's file, and an additional copy is to be sent home to parents to be signed and returned to the school.
6. Information will be provided to the school community through newsletters, information sessions and the school's website.

Staff Expectations

Staff must abide by the Acceptable Use Agreement.

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Staff are to provide explicit education around the safe and ethical use of the internet and digital technologies.

Staff are to ensure that students adhere to the Acceptable Use Agreement. They must document serious breaches, and follow through with consequences when required.

Staff are to model and teach eSmart - Cybersafety as part of their classroom curriculum.

Staff are expected to report all cases of Cyberbullying which come to their attention, to school leadership.

Staff need to be aware of Privacy Legislation. www.privacy.gov.au

Staff also need to be aware of Copyright Legislation. www.smartcopying.edu.au

Student Expectations

Students must follow the guidelines listed in Part B of the Acceptable Use Agreement.

Students are encouraged to report any incidents of Cyberbullying or inappropriate use of technology that they become aware of. Students are expected to report such matters to both parents and school staff.

Parent Expectations

Parents are expected to be familiar with the school's Acceptable Use Agreement. Familiarity will enable parents to support students in adhering to the expectations set out in this document.

It is essential that parents report any incidents of Cyberbullying or unsafe cyber-behaviour that they become aware of to the school.

References

BSWPS Student Code of Conduct

BSWPS Netbook Agreement/Acceptable Use Agreement for Ultraset, Internet and Digital Technologies

BSWPS Responsible and Ethical Use of Technology

Cybersmart program- Australian Communications and Media Authority www.acma.gov.au
www.cybersmartkids.com.au

eSmart School Program -The Alannah and Madeline Foundation
www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/elearning

Evaluation

7. This policy will be formally minuted and reviewed by School Council triennially.
This policy was ratified by School Council on 17 /06 / 2013.

Principal

School Council President