LEARNING TECHNOLOGY
NETWORK AND INTERNET
ACCESS POLICY

Rationale:

Beechworth Secondary College recognises that electronic information research skills are important and will become essential tools for effective members of our society. In responding to the challenge of providing all students with a relevant education, the College actively supports access by students and staff to the widest variety of information resources together with the skills to evaluate and analyse such resources. The College believes that the benefits to students of being able to access and retrieve information and the opportunities to collaborate with others exceed the possible disadvantages.

Aims:

To ensure safe and proper use of the internet and College networks to support student learning.

Implementation:

Student Access

The College network is provided for students to conduct research and communicate with others. Independent access to network services is provided to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. The use of on-line services, made possible by the College, may lead students to electronic information services, which have not been screened by educators for student use. Therefore, prior parental or guardian permission is required for students to be able to access the College network.

Student Code of Conduct - On-line Access Rules and Network Responsibilities

The College provides the opportunity to access the Internet and other on-line services as part of the College curriculum. The following guidelines will also apply to all students accessing resources through the College's on-line network.

- Students must have written parental/guardian permission to access the on-line resources through the College network.
- Network administrators may review files and communications in student storage areas to maintain integrity and to ensure that users are using the system responsibly.
- Users should not expect that files stored on the College's computer servers would always be private.

The Role of Students

- Individual users of the College computer network are responsible for their behaviour and communications over these facilities.

- General College rules for student behaviour, conduct and standards of communication, as detailed in the Student Code of Conduct, apply to the use of IT.
- Users must comply with College standards and will honour the Student Agreement they have signed.

The Role of Parents

- Parents and guardians are expected to support the College in the implementation of the Student Code of Conduct and the standards of behaviour as expressed in this policy.

The Role of Staff

- The College expects staff to include appropriate use of Learning Technologies throughout the curriculum
- It is also expected that teachers will provide guidance and instruction to students in the appropriate use of such resources. This will take into account the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities and developmental levels of students.

The Role of the College

- The College undertakes to implement the Learning Technology and Internet Access Policy and to provide appropriate physical and financial resources to facilitate the successful incorporation of access to on-line services throughout the College's curriculum.
- The College will actively support the professional development of all staff to ensure the effective inclusion of learning technologies into the College and its curriculum.

Sanctions:

The sanctions involved with breaches of the on-line access rules and responsibilities are those outlined in the Student Code of Conduct and are listed below. Sanctions may include the following measures:
- Withdrawal of privilege, including on-line access
- Payment of costs incurred in repairing any damage to equipment or files

For serious breaches of the rules:

- Suspension and possibly Expulsion
- The police will be called in the case of any illegal activity.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three year review cycle.
- This policy was ratified by School Council in May 2015