

## IT POLICY – WHOLE SCHOOL

### **PRESHIL VISION STATEMENT**

*At our core remains an unshakeable commitment to encouraging all children to set and achieve their own goals and to be respected as individuals in their own right. This is a commitment to our children to be nurtured and challenged in an atmosphere that inspires creativity and independent thinking in all areas of life and does not, overtly or subtly, use competition or punishment to motivate through the fear of failure.*

*As global citizens we encourage an awareness of world issues and encourage effort to make a positive difference. We believe that education should prepare students to be thoughtful, peace-loving and active citizens of the world. Preshil will remain a school that puts kindness, compassion and social relationships at the centre of its operations.*

Preshil is committed within its available resources to the provision of contemporary ICT infrastructure and resources equitably in a safe learning environment to enhance the teaching and learning outcomes of its students.

### **IT FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING**

Communication enabled by the use of IT can facilitate the relationship between the family, the school, and the community, and provide new opportunities for parents and care givers to engage with teachers, learning programs, and their children's or young person's progress.

Networked tools and worksites connect school, home and community learning, increasing flexibility and supporting learning outside the boundaries of school buildings and the conventional school day. Best practice now requires unified connectivity, reliable systems with sustainable and adaptable software and hardware, seamless access to content and services, and quality technical support. The effective use of digital, mobile, interactive technologies has the capacity to improve and accelerate learning and the potential to transform teaching.

### **Teachers can use IT to:**

- empower students to purposefully select creative activities, applications and modes of communication using visually appealing presentation tools
- provide communication and collaboration tools
- present opportunities for students to be part of broader communities
- make learning activities, information, courses and feedback available online anywhere – anytime
- offer students immediate feedback on their learning queries and progress
- increase parent access to student work and achievement.

### **Effective integration of IT can transform pedagogies by empowering teachers to:**

- connect with and learn from colleagues and students and participate in professional learning programs and collaborative projects
- evaluate, create and share online learning resources with colleagues and shape the development of resources and products.

Teachers can discover a new potential for their work as they exploit the opportunities for using IT in learning. To capitalise on the significant expenditure on IT infrastructure, it is important that teachers are adequately trained in current and emerging technologies, especially new social networking applications. Schools also need to plan within their available resources for ongoing professional development.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The new digital technologies seem inevitably to be bringing about fundamental shifts in patterns of communication and human relationships. The overriding principle for Preshil staff, parents, care givers and students is that their behaviour online should reflect the standard of appropriate behaviour which is expected in all person-to-person interaction. Such behaviour should at all times demonstrate a respect for the dignity of each person. Appropriate boundaries should always be observed, especially in communication with young people. The child protection protocols and policies of Preshil and civil authorities must always be observed.

### **Principal Responsibilities**

The Principal is to implement policies and procedures and to provide the appropriate consultancy services, technical advice and infrastructure support to enable Heads of Campus to make available the best teaching and learning environment possible for the wellbeing of students.

### **Head of Campus Responsibilities**

Heads of Campus should:

- make adequate provision for teacher training and professional learning, covering the general use of ICT across all learning areas, effective pedagogies integrating ICT, training on specific applications, familiarisation with emerging technologies
- make available the best teaching and learning environment possible
- make appropriate appointments and take necessary measures to manage the school's technology resources
- budget resources for ongoing maintenance and technology refresh, and ensure the school's ICT infrastructure records are current
- lead in the development and review of, adhere to and enforce an Acceptable Use Policy for the school.

### **Teachers' Responsibilities**

Teachers should:

- undertake appropriate training and professional learning activities in ICT from time to time and as made available
- plan for and integrate the use of ICT in their pedagogy and students' learning experiences
- be attentive to the content they are generating, sharing or drawing to the notice of others
- ensure adherence to professional boundaries in all use of ICT, including social networking sites and other means of electronic communication
- develop in their students the skills and a knowledge base that contribute to their safety and wellbeing
- assist in the development and review of, adhere to and enforce an Acceptable Use Policy for the school.

### **Students' Responsibilities**

Students should:

- use appropriate ICTs to enhance their learning being respectful of the content they are generating, sharing or drawing to the attention of others
- participate in all dimensions of life and develop skills and a knowledge base to contribute to their own safety and wellbeing
- assist in the development and review of, adhere to and enforce an Acceptable Use Policy for the school.

### **Parental and Care Giver Responsibilities**

Parents and care givers should:

- encourage learning through the appropriate use of ICTs
- be attentive to the content that they and their children and young people are generating, sharing or drawing to the attention of others
- encourage their children to participate in all dimensions of life and develop skills and a knowledge base to contribute to their own safety and wellbeing
- assist in the development and review of, adhere to and enforce an Acceptable Use Policy for the school.