eSAFETY (STUDENTS)
Policy

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect – Romans 12:2

Rationale

The College Mission Statement calls us to remain open to change, strive to discern and have the courage to speak the truth in love. The eSafety Policy recognises the dynamic and ever changing nature of information and communication technology and the great learning potential inherent in the positive application of this expanding area. Furthermore, the eSafety Policy aims to promote the positive use of technology by students through the College's commitment to proactive measures that support safe use of technology, education about digital citizenship and appropriate responses to student misuse of the technology.

Definition

eSafety is a term which means not only the internet but other ways in which young people communicate using electronic media, e.g. mobile phones. It means ensuring that children and young people are protected from harm and supported to achieve the maximum benefit from new and developing technologies without risk to themselves or others.

eSafety includes, but is not limited to strategies that educate and minimise risk around:
- Cyber bullying
- Digital reputation
- eSecurity and eCommerce
- Excessive use of technology
- Identity theft and scams
- Offensive or illegal content
- Protecting personal information
- Sexting
- Child abuse including grooming and unwanted sexual contact
- Social networking
- Copyright

Principles

- Respect for the dignity of all people is central at Our Lady of Sion College and is the responsibility of all members of the school community
- eSafety awareness is vital and should be a priority for all students, parents/guardians, educators and the whole community
- Promoting eSafety aims to protect young people from the adverse consequences of access or use of electronic media, including from bullying, inappropriate sexualised behaviour or exploitation
- The College will promote positive online behaviour, teach digital media literacy, and support peer and personal safety through the use of the T.H.I.N.K. (is it True, Helpful, Illegal, Necessary or Kind) protocol
- While the intention is to promote and restore positive relationships, it needs to be recognised that there are limitations to the College's ability to respond to the following:
  - Material posted on social networking pages
  - Personal emails/text messages/posts to social media and other forms of online communication

Implementation

- The College will work in partnership with parents/guardians and students to educate about eSafety and the effective use of information communication technologies
- The College strongly recommends that all parents/guardians be aware of what online social networking their daughter(s) are engaging in and actively monitor the nature of the communication used
- Students and parents/guardians are required to read, sign and comply with the Acceptable Use of Technology Guidelines in the student planner so that they are aware of the College's expectations
- Within the College Pastoral Program and the curriculum, the College offers specific educational programs related to eSafety. External experts in this area will be employed as appropriate to support these programs
- Students are educated on how to report concerns, including eSafety, and the College provides guidelines and further details regarding eSafety practices in the following documents:
  - Student Acceptable Use of Technology Guidelines
  - Student and Parent/Guardian iPad Program Conditions of Issue and Deed of Agreement
  - Our Lady of Sion College iPad and BYOD Program
  - Our Lady of Sion Child Safety Policy and Code of Conduct
- Concerns, in regards to any eSafety issue, should be raised with College staff as a matter of importance
- The structures of the College will support student access to appropriate web-based material whilst at school. For example: filtering of inappropriate websites and social media apps

- The College may monitor traffic and material sent and received using the College's ICT network. The College uses filtering and restricts access to certain sites and data, including email as a way of protecting students and staff from inappropriate content.

- The College may audit its computer network, Internet access facilities, iPads and other College ICT equipment/devices or commission an independent forensic audit

- Staff will document eSafety incidents within our Learning Management System and refer to a member of the Pastoral Care team for review and appropriate action

Related Policies and Expectations
- Acceptable Technology Use Guidelines (Student Planner)
- Child Safety Policy
- Code of Conduct
- Communication Policy
- Curriculum Policy
- Electronic Communication Policy (Staff)
- Health and Wellbeing Policy
- Grievance Resolution Policy
- Media, Reputation and Promotion Policy
- Pastoral Care Policy
- Privacy Policy
- Social Media Policy
- Student Anti-Bullying Policy
- Rights and Responsibility (Student Planner)

Review Date: 2023

Ratification by College Board on: August 2019