Mary MacKillop College Cyber Safety Policy

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Cyberbullying Policy

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Contents

College Values

- The dignity of each person
- Equality of opportunity
- Great trust in God

Policy

Mary MacKillop College is committed to providing a safe and caring environment that fosters respect for others.

Rationale

Mary MacKillop College promotes and aims to provide a safe, supportive, and inclusive learning environment for all students and staff. We endeavour to ensure a culture where all acknowledge and understand that student safety and wellbeing is the responsibility of everybody.

Mary MacKillop College takes an active approach to promoting positive behaviour and respect for others. Bullying and harassment prevention is part of a comprehensive, cohesive, and integrated school wide system of learning that supports and creates a culture of safety, connectedness, acceptance, and support.

The digital world is now a part of our education and entertainment environment, but it needs to be a safe and secure place for our students. Students are made aware of the importance of online behaviours and protecting their digital footprint and by reporting cyberbullying and getting inappropriate material removed.

Expectations

Confidentiality and cybersafety

- Students should be aware that material they post on Internet sites (including Facebook and other social media sites) is **public**. The content of public posts may have personal implications for students if, for example, potential employers access that material. The content of posts also reflects on our educational institution and community as a whole. Once information is on the internet it may not be possible to remove it.

- Students should not display personal information about themselves or others in a way which is public. For example, students should not post their own or anyone else's address, telephone number or other personal details on the Internet or communicate these details in emails. Students should not distribute someone else's personal information without their permission.

- Where disclosure of personal information is made through authorised avenues (e.g. by the use of email or an official website), users should be aware that invasions of privacy may sometimes occur and it is outside Mary MacKillop College's control to prevent such instances from occurring.

- Students should be aware that persons on the Internet might not be who they say they are. Students must not arrange to meet persons who they have met on the Internet.

- The operation and maintenance of technology resources often requires the backup and caching of data, the logging of activity and the monitoring of general usage patterns and as such, complete confidentiality and privacy cannot be guaranteed. Mary MacKillop College may also be required to inspect or provide copies of electronic communications where required to by law, or where the investigation of possible misuses of technology resources is required.

- 'Cloud' based tools and services may be used for data storage and learning opportunities. We are aware that these services may store data on servers located outside Australia.
- *Cyberbullying and defamation*

- Students must not use email or the Internet to say mean, rude or unkind things about other people or send threatening, harassing or offensive messages. Improper use of technology resources could amount to defamation.

Resources

- Students can be encouraged to report instances of cyberbullying to the <u>Office of the eSafety Commissioner</u> which also provides resources for lesson plans and teaching materials.
- <u>The Student Wellbeing Hub</u> contains information and resources to implement the National Safe Schools Framework. The Safe Schools Hub explores the National Safe Schools Framework, providing case studies and an online audit tool to pinpoint the areas of priority.
- <u>Bullying. No Way!</u> is an educational website for Australian school communities and the general public managed by the Safe and Supportive School Communities. It is a collaborative initiative of all Australian education authorities. Bullying. No Way! covers all types of bullying including cyberbullying
- <u>Kids Helpline</u> have lesson plans available to educate students about cyberbullying and cyber safety.
- *National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence is* on the 16th March each year.
- Some further resources are: *Kids Matter and MindMatters; Restorative Practices; Cybersafetysolutions; Bullyzero Australia Foundation; eSmart; Reachout; National Centre Against Bullying (NCAB) The Alannah and Madeline Foundation; ThinkUKnow; The Line; Young and Safe*
  (which includes lesson plans); Hectors World; GameOn etc.