eSmart Policy

Rationale
At St Bernadette’s school we believe that students, staff and parents deserve to be treated respectfully and that every person needs to feel secure in an environment that supports positive self-esteem, personal growth and sound academic learning.

We believe that a sense of wellbeing is central to students’ ability to learn and that a supportive and nurturing environment contributes to the development of their sense of worth, enthusiasm for learning and optimism for the future.

We acknowledge the importance of Information Communication Technology (ICT) in preparing students for the contemporary world and we believe this is an integral part of the curriculum. Our School is an eSmart school which promotes cyber safety and, as such, we endeavour to provide our students with opportunities to develop the skills necessary to be confident and safe users of technology.

Aims
The purpose of this policy is:

▪ To encourage the development of positive, tolerant and respectful relationships where students take responsibility for their behaviour.
▪ To develop a partnership between the school and parents to support student learning, personal growth and positive self-esteem.
▪ To maintain a safe, positive and caring school environment.
▪ To ensure the rights and responsibilities of students, staff and parents are known, respected and protected.
▪ To use co-operative and restorative approaches to resolving conflict.
▪ To ensure smart, safe and responsible behaviour when using digital technologies.

Implementation

● Support the rights of all members of the school community to engage in and promote a safe, inclusive and supportive learning environment.
● Ensure our Behaviour Management Policy clearly states the school’s values and the expected standards of student behaviour, including actions and consequences for inappropriate behaviour.
● Educate our students to be safe and responsible users of digital technologies.
● Raise our students’ awareness of issues such as online privacy, intellectual property and copyright.
● Supervise students when using digital technologies for educational purposes.
● Provide a filtered internet service but acknowledge that full protection from inappropriate content can never be guaranteed.
● Respond to and record issues or incidents that have the potential to impact on the wellbeing of our students.
● St Bernadette’s Primary School will put in place protocols to protect privacy and the dignity of individuals and security of information, to maintain the high public standing of our school and compliance with State and Federal Laws.
● Support parents/guardians to understand the importance of safe and responsible use of digital technologies, the potential issues that surround their use and strategies that they can implement at home to support their child.
● Provide parents/guardians with a copy of the Digital Technologies and Internet User Agreement. A signed copy of this agreement is to be returned annually.
Evaluation
This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's review cycle.