ST. JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
WARRNAMBOOL

TEACHING AND LEARNING POLICY

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A] RATIONALE

This policy should be read in conjunction with our school's vision and mission statements and our school's assessment and reporting policy.

It is the policy of our school that teaching and learning practices should develop the quality of learning for all students in our school.

Our school aims to provide each student with a range of learning experiences which will:

- encourage the child to reach his/her full potential
- develop his/her self-esteem, confidence and independence within a faith community.
- use technologies in ways that reflect professional and community practices.

B] VALUES

We have identified the following five major Gospel Values that underpin our policy:

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<th>FAITH</th>
<th>COMMUNITY</th>
<th>RESPECT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JUSTICE</td>
<td>COMMITMENT</td>
<td>LEARNING</td>
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C] POLICY STATEMENT

The policy identifies the following statement as important to successful teaching and learning at St. Joseph's. We believe that learning is most effective when there is a presence of positive relationships and mutual respect. Christian ethics are modelled and taught, valuing tolerance for one another’s individuality.

We believe that all students need to be given opportunities to:
* communicate ideas
* work independently and interdependently
* think critically as well as imaginatively
* be autonomous, self directed learners
* be effective problem solvers
* be flexible and adaptable learning risk takers
* use new tools of information technology
* build relationships based on our Gospel Values.
* use technologies in ways that reflect professional and community practices.

D] GUIDELINES

That students are given opportunities to:
* learn and develop skills of working independently and interdependently
* develop thinking skills and to solve problems
* participate in student-centered learning
* take risks in their learning through supportive, collaborative environments
* use new tools of information technologies and learn “how to learn”
* use technologies in ways that reflect professional and community practices.

That teachers are given opportunities for professional development.

E] POLICY REALISATION

The implications of our teaching and learning policy are that teachers will plan teaching and learning approaches which
• recognise that effective learning involves construction of meaning by the learner
• recognise the importance of designing and negotiating appropriate learning experiences
• enhance different learning styles
• affirm the different needs of individual learners
• help the learner use strategies and processes which take them beyond their styles to enhance and maximise their learning
• teach learners about their own learning
• provide negotiation between the learner and the teacher
• prepare learners to live in the emerging world - a world with a global and local focus
• focus on thinking about thinking and thinking about learning
• use technologies in ways that reflect professional and community practices.

F.] REFLECTIVE MATERIALS

Guidelines for School Development and Documentation ( Ballarat Diocese)
Learning Technologies Plan ( CEO Ballarat Diocese 1999)
Enhancing Learning with Information Technology; Promises, pitfalls and practicalities ( Dr. Julia Atkin 1998)

G.] POLICY HISTORY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy Status</th>
<th>Development by</th>
<th>Date Ratified by Schools Board</th>
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<tr>
<td>Policy Ratification</td>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>Term 2, 1999</td>
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<td>Policy Review:</td>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>Term 4, 2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Policy Reviewed</td>
<td>Policy Committee</td>
<td>Term 2 2007</td>
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