Technology
POLICY

Rationale:

As a school community, we believe in the use of technology as a tool for learning and, therefore, strive to give students opportunities to use a variety of technology for various purposes. Technology assists us to communicate our ideas and gives us an important skill that will be useful throughout our lives. The correct use and care of our technology equipment is vitally important to the ongoing success of our teaching and learning program.

Aims:

- Ararat Primary School aims to use technology and the Internet as a resource for teaching and learning
- Ararat Primary School will endeavour to clearly communicate expectations in relation to the safe use of technology to our students and school community
- All members of our school community must share the responsibility for the maintenance and careful use of all technology
- Ararat Primary School aims to educate students in the normal, polite and considerate use of language and images relevant to the technology being used
- Ararat Primary School endeavours to ensure students understand the basic premise of copyright laws
- Students will be respectful of their own and other student's privacy
- Students will develop their critical literacy skills
- Students will develop a range of technical and problem solving skills to enhance their confidence and ability to use technology in a creative manner
- Student work will maintain an acceptable standard when published in any forum
- Ararat Primary School will keep our school community well informed about technology and its use at our school

Implementation:

- When using technology, our school has a responsibility to provide a safe environment, and our students have a responsibility to use technology for the educational purposes intended
- Staff will monitor student use of technology and set appropriate tasks for students to undertake
- All students and families from Yr 3 – 6 will sign the 'Computer and Technology Agreement' before using technology at school
- All students will be educated about Cybersafety
- The emphasis at our school is on the careful and responsible use of technology. Students will be explicitly taught how to handle, use and store each piece of equipment
- As a part of our literacy program students will be exposed to writing for different purposes and audiences, and develop an understanding of the need to modify our language according to who we are writing for. For example, the difference between writing used in an SMS and writing to complete a formal task
- Our school will develop student's understanding of copyright laws and assist them to reference works correctly
- As a part of our curriculum, students will be taught the importance of maintaining their own and other student's confidentiality
- As a part of our literacy program students will be taught to view information critically and identify information from reliable and trustworthy sources
- Students at Ararat Primary School will undertake a sequential skills program that encompasses a variety of technological equipment, with an emphasis on problem solving
- All endeavours will be made to ensure students' work is be thoroughly edited and checked before being published in any public forum
- Staff and students will share initiatives, advertise guest speakers, publish cyber safety information and any other relevant information on an as needed basis to keep our school community well informed

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed on a 12 monthly basis. If there are any changes, this policy will be re-submitted to School Council for ratification. If there are no changes, this policy will be officially reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....	August 2012