

# Albury High School Internet Policy Statement

## RATIONALE

Albury High School recognises that emerging information technologies have changed the nature of accessing information. We recognise the need to provide students with the knowledge to access this information to keep up with the world's rapidly expanding knowledge base.

The Internet, multi-media and computer resources provide students with high interest and exciting challenges and can be used as effective tools by teachers to enrich the curriculum and provide for the wide ranging needs of our students.

Access to information technology will enable students to explore vast stores of information in libraries and databases all around the world. As a result, we believe that with responsible use of the Internet and computer resources, Albury High School students will be given the opportunity to participate more effectively within a rapidly changing world.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

1. It is the responsibility of all staff, as outlined in the DSE's Computers in Schools Policy (1995), to integrate computers and associated technology, including the Internet, into their existing curriculum and teaching practices.
2. It is the responsibility of all staff to provide a safe learning environment for all students. Staff will exercise *care and supervision* when students are using the Internet especially when they are communicating with other people.
3. It is the responsibility of all staff to ensure that no identifying data is transmitted that describes the personal situation and location of any members of the school community.
4. It is the responsibility of all users to respect the privacy of other users. This issue will be addressed by the control of access by individualised user IDs linked to passwords. It is imperative that all passwords remain confidential.
5. It is the responsibility of all users to adhere to the school's Internet Users Agreement (IUA) which outlines appropriate behaviour while using the Internet; the consequence for breaches of the IUA; and strategies for dealing with the transmission and receipt of inappropriate Internet material. The IUA will be closely aligned to the school's current policies and strategies regarding student welfare, good discipline and effective learning, child protection, anti-racism and anti-discrimination.
6. It is the responsibility of all users to be aware of the legal and ethical requirements of copyright. Users must realise that all recorded creative works are protected by copyright and that the Internet is a very public forum making breaches of copyright highly visible. The legal responsibilities of users with regard copyright is especially important for computer software.
7. It is the responsibility of the system administrator and nominated others to ensure that the school's computer networks are managed both effectively and securely with special attention to virus protection and user access.
8. It is the responsibility of the system administrator and nominated others to implement and supervise time management strategies that ensure that all users have equal access to computer resources.
9. It is the responsibility of the school, with recommendations from the Technology Committee, to ensure all staff have opportunities for professional development on the use of computers and the Internet so that staff may understand more fully the issues and ethics surrounding Internet use.
10. It is the responsibility of the Technology Committee to regularly review and revise this policy and related documentation. Its role extends to the consideration of the allocation of existing resources and the acquisition of new resources. It will also be made aware of all breaches of the IUA and adjudicate on those considered ambiguous.