Doncaster Gardens Primary School
ICT Curriculum Policy

Philosophical Basis:
All aspects of society are affected by the rapid advance of technology, with education and technology now being inextricably linked. Computers and mobile devices are powerful tools for creativity, productivity, collaboration, communication, flexibility and independent learning, and enables schools to participate fully in the global information age. ICT curriculum refers to the implementation of computer and mobile technologies into learning and teaching programs.

Guidelines:
The ICT Curriculum Program will:
• Provide routine access to computers and associated technologies as part of the students’ daily classroom environment
• Provide students with access to richer source materials both local and global
• Provide opportunities for student success
• Present students with alternate, relevant and efficient methods to access and present information
• Ensure students have equitable access to the school’s ICT resources through timetabling and electives wherever practicable
• Motivate and stimulate learning for all, encouraging students to take risks and try out new ideas
• Encourage analytical and divergent thinking
• Encourage teachers to integrate computer and mobile technologies into classroom programs
• Offer opportunities for cooperative learning
• Provide staff with access to advanced technologies
• Ensure extensive and ongoing Professional Learning to support the integration of computer and mobile technologies as tools in the learning process, including peer coaching where possible.
• Comply with Department of Education and Training (DET) Occupational Health and Safety guidelines whenever ICTs are used in the school, and reinforce these guidelines with the students and school community.

Implementation:
The ICT Curriculum program will provide:
• A balance of discovery learning and personal exploration, as well as systematic teaching and guidance
• Tasks which cater for individual differences in abilities and needs among students
• Cooperative learning activities through the appropriate use of small group and partner situations and tools that stimulate students to make maximum use of their own cognitive potential
• Strategies that enable students to take control of their learning
• Teaching strategies that enable students to transfer skills between various curriculum areas
• A range of hardware and software that provides opportunities for the transfer and extension of knowledge and skills
• Opportunities for extension for students who have advanced skills in ICT
• Information and advice to students on online safety including cyberbullying, together with the consequences of sending offensive or threatening communications in any form. The importance of not sharing personal information, photos or videos on the Internet, particularly on social networking websites, will be frequently reinforced.

Evaluation:
• Ongoing evaluation in terms of policy and program review will be conducted.
• Student performances on tasks in a technological environment will be monitored.
• The skill and competency levels of students will be continually assessed.
• Improvement in the quality of resources and facilities available to students will be evaluated annually.
• This policy will be reviewed annually as part of the policy review cycle.

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