



# Doreen Primary School

## MEDIA

### POLICY

---

#### **Rationale:**

- The media provides unrivalled opportunities to promote school achievements and activities, but must be used in a manner that enhances our school image and does not infringe departmental requirements.
- The Media is an evolving and influential entity in our society. It encompasses television, newspapers, magazines, film, and in more recent times the internet. The internet area of the media covers a vast array of forms, from online encyclopaedias to websites, blogs, emails, twitter, messaging and live feeds. The Smart phone has also changed the way the internet is accessed, meaning more instant access for all. Social media such as Facebook is now a huge component of this area.
- Whereas in previous times, students have seen different aspects of media develop and progress large leaps and bounds, today's student can be said to be a native of this new Internet and Digital age. How, when, what, who and why are now important things to ask when students access the vast resources of today's Information Communication Technology, as well as the ethics and moral issues that arise when they do so.
- At Doreen Primary School we use many aspects of today's Media and Technology. In doing so, we will aim to not only educate our students on the technical manipulation needed to access information, but aim to instil the need for moral and ethical uses of the information obtained or published as a result

#### **Aims:**

#### **The News – newspapers, magazines, Internet news, radio news, television news.**

- At Doreen Primary School the News is used across most of the classrooms as both a source of information for research and re-writing, and as a basis for oral reports to classrooms. It is expected that all articles presented to children are free from pornography, overtly violent crimes, and crimes against children. Where children are researching news articles themselves, classroom teachers are expected to ensure children are aware of the appropriate content of the articles they research.

## **Implementation:**

### **The Classroom**

- Classroom teachers will discuss with students who are using the media in the classroom, the concept of appropriate articles, topics or subjects.
- Children should not be exposed to or research items which are pornographic, excessively violent, or involve crimes against children.
- Teacher judgement and common sense is an important component of this policy, and any concerns or issues should be discussed with colleagues or the principal.

### **The Wider Community**

- As a matter of professional courtesy, and in relation to issues of duty of care and legal liability, all staff are required to liaise with the principal or supervising officer prior to making any formal statement that bears on the organisation or program of the school or place of work.
- Formal media statements on behalf of the school are to be made by the principal or School Council president.
- Similarly, any approaches by the media to the school or its employees for comment or information must be immediately redirected to the principal.
- Members of the media are aware that they are not to enter the school grounds without the principal's consent, but they are entitled to film the school and/or seek comments from parents from outside the school boundary.
- The principal may refer inquiries to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's Media Relations Branch, particularly if they appear to be of a potentially sensitive or controversial nature.
- Prior to any student's image, name or work appearing in the school newsletter or the wider media, written consent must be provided by parents.
- The following Media Consent form must be used to obtain such consent.

## **Evaluation:**

- This policy will be reviewed as new innovations occur

....