

WAIPARA PRIMARY SCHOOL

ICT POLICY

Rationale

People need to be ICT literate to participate in a knowledge based society. ICT has become an integral part of everyday life and has the power to make information more easily and rapidly accessible. The welfare and safety of all children and staff must be ensured when using the internet.

Purposes

1. To use computer based technology as a tool for actively involving and empowering learners of all ages and abilities.
2. To support children in their journey to become independent learners.
3. To provide internet access so all staff and children can :
 - become effective and safe users of the internet
 - extend awareness and knowledge of the internet
 - become motivated, responsible, independent users of the internet

Guidelines

1. Teachers should organise their classrooms to allow children to have access to ICT technology throughout the school day. Children will be supervised at all times when accessing internet sites – the access of which will be solely for educational purposes. This includes personal use and use for the professional development of staff.
2. Children will be directed to bookmarked sites on the internet rather than surfing. Staff members must gain experience using the internet before children use it. ICT should be used appropriately as an educational tool, through the use of email, fax, internet, phone, word processing, CD roms, digital camera, Kidpix software, video, movies.
3. ICT tools should be part of a learning environment where children learn through social interaction - to take turns, to help each other and to communicate purposefully.
4. An ICT budget is necessary to provide for effective management, maintenance and staff development of ICT systems.
5. Computers will be fitted with appropriate internet safety barriers and children and their parents will be required to sign the 'Using ICT at Waipara School' statement.
6. If deemed necessary, auditing of the school computer system could include all aspects of its use.

Conclusion

All children have the right to learning experiences which are creative, challenging and empowering. Children must be trusted to use the internet safely with precautions in place.

Signed John Murchison

Date 23 May, 2013

Reviewed