Media Usage

Related Merici Policies

Technology
Copyright

Rationale/Purpose

Merici College needs to ensure that all Media viewed by students is age appropriate and complies with copyright requirements.

Definitions

Nil

Policy

In determining which Media resources can be used in a class, the overriding principle is that materials are selected according to the Catholic Ethos of the school, and in line with our duty of care to support and develop the educational objectives of the curriculum.

Procedures

1. Consideration will be given to selecting materials suitable to the level of the intellectual, spiritual, emotional and social development of the students in line with the values and ethos of the Catholic school.
2. Selection of resources shall consider student diversities of culture, gender, special learning needs and socio-economic background.
3. Students shall be offered a range of resources that supports them in developing a critical understanding of the diversity of beliefs and values found in society and in human experiences. Some resources will be selected which will enable the student, with assistance, to challenge dominant ideas in media resources, particularly stereotypes and undesirable models of human behaviour.
4. Teachers shall be sensitive to the use of resources, which deal with controversial topics or challenging situations, and carefully consider the suitability of such resources.
5. Resources selected will be stimulating, adaptable and have appropriate language and visual quality. Students learning outcomes will guide the selection of media resources.
6. Teachers shall be mindful of the general parental views and the community standards of the school when selecting media resources.
7. Resources, such as those that contain gratuitous or extreme violence or pornographic material, have no place in the Catholic school and are not to be used.

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<th>MA15+</th>
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<td>Years 7, 8 and 9</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
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<tr>
<td>Years 10</td>
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<td>✓</td>
<td>With written parental permission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Years 11 and 12</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>With written parental permission</td>
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Even within these classifications, if it is determined that the use of a particular resource could be considered sensitive but worthwhile intellectually, spiritually, emotionally and socially then

- The Subject Coordinator or an executive staff member must review a resource:
- The school must inform the parents/guardians in writing of the proposed use of the material and provide information to parents about protocols regarding use of media resources. The written advice to parents must include a tear off return section for the parents to sign giving their consent for the child to see the resource; and
- The right of parents to request that their children are not exposed to that resource must be acknowledged.

In the event that a concern does arise about the use of a resource, the following procedures should be implemented as needed:

- The person expressing the concern shall make an appointment to discuss the resource with the teacher and indicate the nature of their concern.
- If necessary, the teacher will discuss the situation with the Principal before proceeding further. This means that the resource must not be used until a decision has been ratified.
- If requested, the material will be made available to the person expressing the concern.
- If, after discussion with the teacher, the matter remains unresolved, a meeting shall be arranged between the person and appropriate senior staff.
- In achieving resolution the following points need to be considered:
  - Justification of the choice of resource.
  - Relocation of the resource to a more appropriate age level.
  - Removal of the resource from the school.

**Forms**
Nil

Approved by: Merici Executive

Implementation Date: September 2007

Policy last Updated: July 2017

Merici Contact Officer: Deputy Principal Learning