

## **Internet Management**

The Internet provides access to a plethora of online services, such as email, newsgroups, bulletin boards, chat rooms and the World Wide Web. The purpose of education is to prepare students for success in life and work in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. When students enter the work force, they will most likely be using their employer's electronic network. As a result they must learn what actions are appropriate for Internet use.

The educational value of appropriate information on the Internet is substantial. However, the Internet is composed of information provided by institutions and people all over the world and thus, also includes material that is not of educational value in the context of the College setting. Among other things, there is information that is inaccurate, abusive, profane, or illegal.

The College wishes to support students in being responsible users of the Internet and does not condone or permit access to or the use of such material. It is a joint responsibility of the College and the parents of each student to educate the student about his or her responsibility when using the Internet.

Students are expected to use the St. George College network in a manner consistent with this policy and will be held responsible for their use. Additionally, parents should discuss with their children their own expectations for their child's Internet use. Home use of the Internet by students must be supervised and parents are completely responsible for the student's use of the Internet resources from home. A daily time limit for home use is highly recommended. A useful book for parents who wish to learn more about the Internet as it pertains to their child's use is entitled "Safe Surfing" by Julie McKeehan (1996, AP Professional).

The Internet provides exciting opportunities to expand learning for students and teachers. However with this opportunity comes the responsibility for appropriate use.

St. George College has an *Acceptable Use Policy* and procedural guidelines for accessing and using the Internet for all students in Years 6 to 12. It is our belief that the use of the Internet is a mirror that shows you what kind of person we are.

We urge all parents to discuss the contents of the Internet Policy with their children prior to signing the agreement to ensure that they are aware of the legal and College implications of any breaches to the Policy.