IONA COLLEGE CYBER SAFETY POLICY

1. **RATIONALE**

   Iona College seeks to provide for the development of the full potential of each of its students within a safe physical and emotional environment. This responsibility is increasingly being tested by technological developments and the resultant use of these technologies in the educational process. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) devices and the Internet bring great benefits to teaching and learning programmes. However the College recognises that the presence within the learning environment of these technologies can also facilitate anti-social, inappropriate and even illegal behaviour and activities.

2. **OBJECT**

   The object of this policy is to clarify the means by which the College addresses its commitment to promote the safe use of ICT devices, to respond properly to issues of cyber-bullying and to proactively address the need for students and other members of the school community to receive education about the safe and responsible use of present and development of technology. The College relies heavily upon parents to support college incentives and to proactively address cyber safety themselves, during out of school usage, including at home.

3. **SCOPE**

   This policy applies to all students and staff at this College and to in-school (directly school based usage) incidents and issues arising from misuse of ICT resources, including cyber-bullying. It is to be read with other school policies addressing the wellbeing of students and staff, most especially the Student Protection Policy. Where there is any inconsistency the Student Protection Policy prevails. It is also to be read with the Computer Supply Agreement which addresses out of school use of school owned computers under National Secondary School Computer Fund.

4. **POLICY**

   a) The College will maintain rigorous cyber safety practices at school which aim to maximise the benefits of technology to student learning and minimise risk.

   b) The College will take proactive educational measures to raise awareness of cyber safety in the school community.

   c) *Responses to and any concerns regarding misuse or cyber-bullying occurring at school will be prompt and in accordance with natural justice, school ethos, the law and mandatory reporting obligations*. *Allegations of harm arising from cyber-bullying (at any time) is a matter of mandatory reporting by the College to State Authorities.*

   d) While supervision and usage out of school hours falls under **parental authority,** support will be provided to parents and students experiencing cyber-bulling occurring out of school hours.

5. **RESPONSIBILITIES**

   a) **The College**

   The College is responsible for:

   i. Addressing cyber-bullying or misuse occurring at <u>school</u>.

   ii. Providing relevant education for the students and the wider school community regarding Cyber Safety.

   iii. On-going funding for Cyber Safety development, awareness training for students and staff.

   iv. Pastoral initiatives and support for those affected by Cyber Safety incidents both at school and out of school hours.

v.   Providing information about cyber safety on the College website.

vi.   Pastoral support for parents and students experiencing Cyber Safety issues in school and out of school hours and as detailed in the Computer Supply Agreement.

vii.   Implementation of Policies which address staff and student well-being.

viii.   Mandatory reporting to State Authorities as directed by law.

b) **The Students**

Students are required to:-

i.   Respect the rights and safety of others in their use of technology.

ii.   Follow directions and procedures from staff regarding Cyber Safety.

iii.   Conduct themselves in a manner reflecting the values of the College.

iv.   Refrain from any misuse (see Annexure 1), especially that which gives rise to allegations of bullying, harm to others or attacks on reputation.

v.   Refrain from uploading any content related to the College onto the internet including but not limited to: posting images of the College logo, teachers, uniforms or buildings.

vi.   Refrain from any usage that would bring the school into disrepute.

c) **The Parents**

Under the Enrolment Contract and the Computer Supply Agreement, Parents are required to:

i.   Work in partnership with the school when the school is addressing misuse or Cyber-bullying which occurs at school.

ii.   Supervise and manage the students use of technology <u>out of hours and at home.</u>

iii.   Respond to misuse occurring at home, assisted by Pastoral support from the College as appropriate.

6. **BREACHES OF THIS POLICY**

Consequences:-

a) Serious school- imposed disciplines will result from breaches of this policy.

b) There may also be penalties imposed by law should a criminal offence be committed by misuse or Cyber-bullying.

    i.   Student consequences will include:-

- Suspension
- Investigation
- Reporting to state authorities
- show cause
- expulsion

    ii.   Breaches by Staff will include:-

- standing down
- reporting to State Authorities
- Show Cause
- Termination

7. **REVIEW**

   This policy will be reviewed every three years or as deemed necessary.

ANNEXURE 1

- Sending or receiving naked or sexually explicit content.

- Defaming the reputation of another (including the school's own reputation).

- Criminal offences including those related to and including pornography, stalking or assault.