1. **Purpose**
The purpose of the cyber bullying policy is to:

1.1 Ensure that the school community understands what constitutes cyber bullying
1.2 Reinforce with the school community that cyber bullying is unacceptable.

2. **Guidelines**

2.1 Cyber bullying is the use of internet, email, intranets, phones or similar technologies to bully others
2.2 The cyber bullying policy should be read in conjunction with the school anti-bullying policy.
2.3 Consequences exist for students who choose to bully others.
2.4 Everyone within the school community needs to be alert to signs and evidence of cyber bullying and has a responsibility to report it to staff whether as observer or victim.
2.5 All reported incidents of cyber bullying will be investigated appropriately.
2.6 Parental and peer group support and cooperation will be sought at all times.

3. **Implementation**

3.1 The whole school community will be made aware of the school’s position on cyber bullying.
3.2 Teachers will be regularly reminded of their duty of care regarding all forms of bullying.
3.3 The school will adopt a four-phase approach to bullying.
3.4 Primary Prevention:

3.4.1 Professional development for staff relating to all forms of bullying including cyber bullying, harassment and proven counter measures.
3.4.2 The school community educated about the seriousness of cyber bullying, its impact on those being bullied and how this behaviour is unacceptable.
3.4.3 Community awareness and input relating to cyber bullying, its characteristics and the school’s programs and response.
3.4.4 Programs that promote resilience, life and social skills, assertiveness and conflict resolution.
3.4.5 Each classroom teacher to clarify with students at the start of each year the school policy on bullying, including cyber bullying.
3.4.7 Students provided with confidential computer/network log ins and passwords.
3.4.8 Mobile phones not to be turned on at school unless with special permission.
3.4.9 Curriculum to include anti-bullying messages and strategies.
3.4.10 Staff and students to promote the philosophy of “No Put Downs”.

3.5 Early Intervention:

3.5.1 Encourage children and staff to report bullying incidents involving themselves or others.
3.5.2 Regular reminders to students and staff to report incidents of bullying.
3.5.3 Regular monitoring of student traffic on school’s computer networks.
3.5.4 Parents encourage to contact the school if they become aware of problems.
3.5.5 Public recognition and reward for positive behaviour and resolution of problems.

3.6 Intervention:

3.6.1 Each bully, victim and witness will be spoken with, and all incidents or allegations of bullying will be fully investigated and documented.
3.6.2 Parents will be contacted.
3.6.3 Students and staff identified by others as bullies will be informed of allegations.
3.6.4 Both bullies and victims will be offered counselling and support.
3.6.5 Removal of cyber-bullies from access to the school’s network and computers.
3.6.6 If bullying persists parents will be contacted and consequences implemented consistent with the school’s Behaviour Management and Internet Protocol.

3.7 Post Evaluation:
3.7.1 Consequences will be individually based and may include exclusion from class or the yard, school suspension, withdrawal of privileges, ongoing counselling.
3.7.2 Reinforcement of positive behaviours.
3.7.3 Support Structures and rewards for positive behaviours.
3.7.4 Ongoing monitoring of identified bullies.

4 Evaluation
4.1 This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s 3 year cyclic review process

Ratified at School Council 27th October 2010