



St Brendan's Catholic School

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Dear Parents and Carers

RESPONSIBLE INTERNET USE

As you know, St Brendan's takes a strong stand on any issues which involve students accessing inappropriate materials on the internet. Staff work in partnership with parents in educating students to use the internet to gain relevant and appropriate information and to communicate effectively with external agencies which relate to their classroom learning. Our philosophy is that the students are growing up in a digital age and they need to be supported in developing the skills and knowledge required on how to use the internet correctly.

This morning I was made aware that some of the NSW Public Schools in our local area have been targeted by an online pornography ring. I assure you that St Brendan's has not experienced any such activity but encourage you to be particularly vigilant in supervising your child/ren at home.

I spoke to the students from Years 4-6 this morning and strongly urged them not to use Facebook, Instagram and other internet sites. I have encouraged them to speak to a trusted adult in their home or their teacher if they inadvertently access any material which they think is inappropriate. If your child does discuss this issue with you please know that the school takes very seriously our responsibility to work together to eradicate such inappropriate behaviour.

Rest assured that our school will continue to closely monitor the situation and again, I offer the following tips:

- Model appropriate use of technological devices for your child/ren
- Limit use of technology to times when your child/ren can be adequately supervised
- Have all technology in an area where the family spends time and avoid placing any devices in a bedroom
- If your child does share details of an incident, please ensure you record the details and share them with your child's teacher or myself.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Luanna Fletcher

Principal