



Use of Non-Print Text Policy: 2015

Non-print texts such as films, videos, television programs, CD-Roms, DVDs, MP4s, computer games and other electronic texts produced by computers are important aspects of the curriculum in all learning areas.

Teachers need to clearly establish the curriculum purpose and educational benefits for the use of non-print texts, and also address their duty of care responsibilities. The use of non-print texts without a curriculum purpose may breach copyright regulations.

DUTY OF CARE

- Teachers determine the suitability of non-print texts prior to use in a classroom context and must obtain parent or carer permission to use non-print texts. This applies particularly when students are under the recommended age or where there is any doubt as to the suitability of the non-print text. (Please see Use of Non-Print Text Parent Permission proforma Appendix A)
- The following information should be provided when seeking permission from parent/carers:
 1. A short statement about the item
 2. The educational benefit to students when using the item: and
 3. Its place in the teaching and learning program.
- Receiving permission to use a non-print text does not absolve teaching staff from their responsibility to make a judgment about the appropriateness of items to be shown or used with students.
- Teachers should be aware of community expectations whilst providing the best possible opportunity for student learning.
- Parents and Carer's have the right to withdraw their child from any viewing.

COMPUTER DATA OR PROGRAMS

- Sections 101 & 102 of the *Classification Enforcement Act 1996* state that a person must not use a computer service to transmit an article knowing it to be objectionable material, or to transmit restricted material to a minor.

VIDEO/DVD HIRE AND RECORDING:

- The *Copyright Act 1968* enables teachers to show videos/DVDs in class for educational purposes.
- Videos and DVDs hired from video hire outlets are subject to terms of a contract between the outlet and the hirer.
- Making copies of television transmissions and vodcasts previously transmitted free to air channels is permitted, provided copies are marked appropriately and they are made for educational purposes. See the Smart Copying website www.smartcopying.edu.au for further information.

CLASSIFICATION CATEGORIES FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS

- Classification categories for films and computer games are prescribed under the Australian Government's *Classification Act 1995*.

(G) General

- Materials with this classification are suitable for a general audience, but may not be of interest to children.
- The core understanding is that parents should be able to have complete confidence that their child can view the material classified at this level.
- Teachers should view the video/DVD to ascertain its suitability and provide some background information.

(PG) Parental Guidance

- Materials with this classification may require parental guidance as they might upset, frighten or confuse students.