Randwick Boys' High School
Policy on Random Searches of Laptop Computers

Writing Date: **March 2010**
Implementation Date: **March 2010**
Amended: **March 2011**

Preamble:

1. Students may from time to time attempt to place inappropriate material on their laptop computers.
2. Staff may from time to time identify inappropriate material on students' laptop computers.
3. The Charter of Use specifies that staff may view computer content at any time.
4. This policy covers the possibility of the need to use random searches when there may be the perception of numbers of students having inappropriate material on the laptops.

Policy:

1. The school implements the NSW Digital Education Revolution Policies and Procedures.

Purpose:

1. To minimize the risk of inappropriate material being stored on student laptops in breach of the Charter of Use.

Procedure:

1. A teacher may, at any time, exercise his or her right to inspect a student's laptop computer.
2. A random search is conducted when there is a concern that several students or a number of students may have inappropriate material on their laptops. This may be based on observation, intelligence received, or the search of a single student's computer.
3. "Inappropriate material" is anything that breaches the Charter of Use.
4. Head Teachers should use the mechanism of random searches judiciously.
5. Prior to conducting a random search, the Head Teacher should identify the period and class and establish that the teacher will not need to use laptops in that lesson with the class.
6. The Head Teacher should arrange with the TSO to attend the class. Selected laptops will be removed by the TSO and investigated immediately.
7. The Head Teacher will determine the number of laptops with consideration of the TSOs workload and the time taken to search each laptop fully.
8. Any laptops found to be in breach of the Charter of Use will need to be presented to the relevant Deputy Principal, who will follow the Department's guidelines and take into account students' past histories.
9. The Department's guidelines refer to those pertaining to computer use (Charter of Use), as well as guidelines pertaining to aggressive, violence, sexually explicit or pornographic material.
10. The School's Student Management Policy also provides guidelines for dealing with material which is inappropriate.