International Charter School
Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Policy
IB-PYP Candidate School
2016- 2017

Our Mission

The mission of the International Charter School is to integrate the diverse languages and cultures of the communities it serves by teaching all students in two languages - in Spanish and English or in Portuguese and English - and helping children develop an appreciation of other cultures. Children learn to work collaboratively from their multiple experiences and backgrounds, striving towards high standards of academic achievement. Everyone is part of a community of learners, engaging in inquiry about the world, themselves, and others.

The International Baccalaureate Mission

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end, the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

Philosophy

ICT plays a crucial role as we prepare students to succeed in the globally connected world around them. It is important to us that students acquire computer literacy at an early age. ICT allows students to **investigate, create, communicate, collaborate, organize,** and **be responsible** for their learning.

The role of ICT in the PYP

International Society for Technology in Education Standards (ISTE)

Our integration of ICT is based on the ISTE Standards and is aligned with the IB PYP. We strive to integrate technology authentically across disciplines to support learning for all students. Teachers are encouraged to integrate technology into their transdisciplinary units by creating meaningful learning experiences for students and enabling students to use technology as a tool for learning.

The role of ICT
Students learn to be responsible and respectful digital citizens who strive to leave a positive digital footprint on the world. Through the IB curriculum, students solve authentic problems using modern technology tools. Students learn how to search for information, evaluate sources, and present their knowledge using a variety of media. Students are exposed to ICT in Kindergarten and First Grade when appropriate. Beginning in Second Grade, classes receive push in ICT support once a week with the ICT specialist.

Students and teachers are expected to follow the school's Internet Acceptable Use Policy:
Staff Internet Acceptable Use Policy
Student Internet Acceptable Use Policy

Professional Development
Teachers are supported through professional development and continued collaboration with the ICT specialist. Teachers meet with the ICT specialist weekly to discuss transdisciplinary units of inquiry to find meaningful connections to technology that can further student learning. The ICT specialist facilitates job embedded professional development. In addition, the ICT specialist researches and attends many professional development sessions found outside of the school. The staff is informed of all of these learning opportunities as well.

Continued Support
Teachers understand that we are all responsible for utilizing technology throughout the curriculum. Our administrators and stakeholders believe in the importance of technology integration and continue to support our acquisition of technology that facilitates student learning. We are committed to supporting students' learning and use of ICT across all grade levels and disciplines in the school's languages of instruction.

Communication of the ICT Policy to the ICS Community
The ICT policy will be introduced to the ICS community through a variety of pathways including staff meetings, PTO meetings, home visits, academic nights and board of trustees meeting. The

ICT policy will also be available on the ICS website. New staff will be familiarized with the document during staff orientation.

Review Process
The ICT policy will be reviewed regularly as part of the Board's cycle of policy reviews, curriculum review cycle and as part of the whole school improvement plan and will be updated as needed.

The Pedagogical Leadership Team will review the implementation of the policy in classrooms and throughout the school on a regular basis as part of the appraisal process.