McAuley College, Beaudesert

eCentre
A Guide for Parents

eCentre Opening Hours	
Monday – Friday	8.00 am-3.30pm
Wednesday	8.00 am-4.00 pm (Homework Club)

Statement of Philosophy

Technology has heightened information access and dramatically increased the volume of information available to us. Libraries have become a gateway to information resources and communication facilities world-wide. However access to more information, more computers and more resources does not decrease our responsibilities as educators. In fact, it is quite the opposite. At McAuley College, we realise that there is a greater need now more than ever to help our students develop the skills required to locate, select, analyse, synthesise and evaluate information in whatever form, for a given purpose or need. These skills are characteristic of an information literate person and are essential for lifelong independent learning. In an environment of faith, wisdom and love, the College **eCentre** exists to support and promote the lifelong independent learning of students so that they may not only reach, but exceed their full potential in today's world. Thus, the philosophy of the **eCentre** imbues the philosophy and vision of both Catholic Education in the Brisbane Archdiocese and the vision and mission of McAuley College. The "e" in **eCentre** epitomises the vision that every learner will be *empowered to excel* through embodying these values.

The aims of the eCentre are to:

1. Provide a warm and welcoming learning environment, offering students contemporary learning spaces to discover, explore, create and communicate
2. Maintain and promote literacy as a high priority through promoting literature for young people
3. Encourage a love of reading
4. Collaboratively support teachers through curriculum planning and resourcing to engage learning experiences for all students.
5. Provide experiences for students to become lifelong learners and discerning users of information (locating, selecting, analysing, synthesising and evaluating information)

The Resource Collection

The McAuley College eCentre provides a growing range of relevant and dynamic print, non-print and virtual resources. The collection exists to service the College curriculum and the academic and recreational needs of students. The resources are maintained at a high standard of quality. The collections are broadly categorised into the following areas:

FICTION and NON FICTION - A variety of examples of the literature and communication forms of our time for student enjoyment, relaxation as well as for teaching and learning purposes.

TEACHER REFERENCE – Resources that support the professional development of the staff
EQUIPMENT – This includes student laptops, calculators, cameras etc.
TEXTBOOKS – Printed and eBook versions of textbooks

How are the resources selected?

Selection Criteria
eCentre staff will set principle above personal opinion and reason above prejudice in selection of materials to ensure a comprehensive collection appropriate to our College community. All resources selected should be judged by the following criteria:

- Relevancy and appropriateness to the curriculum
- Accuracy and authority
- Value to the collection
- Value for money
- Readability

Donations
Items presented to the eCentre by parents, students, community members or organisations are welcomed, however donated materials will be judged by the same criteria applied to purchased material. The eCentre will at all times reserve the right to decline any gifts of resource materials which do not meet these criteria. Donations will be acknowledged through a statement of recognition placed inside the donated item unless otherwise requested by the donor.

Challenged Materials
In the first instance, if you have concerns about the suitability of a book your child has brought home, please see the Teacher-Librarian. Every endeavour shall be made to resolve issues regarding a learning resource in a professional manner.

Borrowing

Staff are available at the circulation desk and it is from here that borrowing is done, returns are made and queries are answered. Both print and non-print resources are available for loan to staff and students. All borrowers are accessed through the library system called *Oliver*. Borrowing processes are in place to help maintain the quality and availability of resources in an efficient manner, ensuring access to all who require them. It is also in place to help prepare students for their roles as responsible borrowers at school and in the wider community. ***Students are encouraged to see eCentre staff as soon as possible if their books are damaged or lost and not wait until overdue slips are required.***

By the last Friday of the second last week of each term (except in Term 4 which is at least two weeks before), all Fiction and Non-Fiction resources are due back to the eCentre in order for them to be readied for availability at the beginning of the following term.

Overdrive and eBooks

Through the Brisbane Catholic Education Digital library, students have access to thousands of **free** e-books and audiobooks to use on their personal/school devices. To take advantage of these great resources, the free **Overdrive- Library eBooks and Audiobooks app** will need to be downloaded on mobile devices (phone, iPads, tablets etc.). Students/staff will use the first part of their BCE email address to login. This is their "library card number." The resources are automatically removed after 7 days unless they are renewed and are accessed very easily from any device. Alternatively, access from a desktop is via **bcedigital.lib.overdrive.com.**

Textbooks

McAuley College provides e-Textbooks for students from Jacaranda Publishers. The Jacaranda Digital Bundle for the Australian Curriculum offers equity for students through offering a high-value package of 15 digital resources that can be accessed anytime, anywhere and on any device directly from the JacarandaPLUS online portal. The resources are visually appealing and interesting for students, aligned to the Australian Curriculum and a comprehensive support for a contemporary and relevant curriculum. Students will have access to these resources on their devices for the full school year. There will also be printed copies of these resources available for student use through the classroom/eCentre.

In the case where students may be issued with printed textbooks, students are expected to use them and maintain these in a good condition until the end of the year*.* They will be required to record the barcodes in their school diaries and write their names inside each of the textbooks. Due to the cost and supply of these textbooks, it is very important that a clear process is in place so that textbooks in a good condition are available to students at the beginning of the following year.