Holy Rosary Vision for ICT Literacy

- Holy Rosary School endeavours to provide students with the skills, tools and mindsets to achieve success in a rapidly changing technological and information rich world.
- We know that the futures of our students will be characterised by rapid change, globalisation and massive disruption and for this reason we seek to grow students that are thoughtful, balanced and mindful users of technology.
- We seek not to provide mindless screen time but to develop responsible digital citizens who are able to interact collaboratively as members of the connected global community.

Additionally, the rationale for technology integration at Holy Rosary is based on the West Australian Curriculum.
Both the Technologies Curriculum and the ICT capability mandate the appropriate teaching of technology skills.

“"When students were succeeding in school with no technology, we were also living in a world with little technology, and preparing students for life in a world where technology wasn’t a part of their daily lives.”
Sir Ken Robinson, Professor of Education at the University of Warwick

To participate in a knowledge-based economy and to be empowered within a technologically sophisticated society now and into the future, students need the knowledge, skills and confidence to make ICT work for them at school, at home, at work and in their communities.

The Melbourne Declaration on the Educational Goals for Young Australians (MCEETYA 2005)

Although technology can be challenging for teachers, students and parents, a sophisticated and balanced grasp of its use in society is critical if we are to develop students that thrive in the 21st century.
For this reason Holy Rosary seeks to develop discerning digital citizens who are prepared for the digital world.
Holy Rosary has been on a long journey with technology and has arrived at solutions that are best for the learning of each student at an appropriate developmental stage.

We began in the late 1980’s with 8 Commodore computers in the school, PC’s went into classrooms in the late 1990’s and at the turn of the century there was a computer lab with 15 PC’s, which were donated.

In 2004 a computer lab was installed with 32 networked PC’s.

In 2010 the P&F purchased a trolley of Netbooks. Now we have a 1:1 iPad program from Year 1 to Year 6 and the early years classes also have access to iPads in a shared setting.

Over this time we have seen technology improve learning in many ways.

- Student learning can now be personalised more easily.
- Students can access material at the appropriate point of need and have many opportunities to master or extend their learning.
- Students can collaborate across year levels, across the country and world through real time communication.

Assessment has changed too.

- Students will undertake assessment online and teachers can access their results more quickly and provide timely feedback.
- Students have immediate access to current news, research, ideas and a vast range of knowledge to enrich or support their learning.
We realise students can also waste their time online if we don't impress upon them the importance of leveraging ICT as a learning tool. This area of digital literacy and balanced usage is a key part of our ICT vision and we welcome you to join us in the quest to make learning with technology more meaningful and learner focused.

To ensure that our students are prepared for the 21st century, we work with our teachers to develop programs that thoughtfully and rigorously embed learning technologies in the curriculum.

We do not aim to use technologies in superficial ways - as a time filler or as a reward for good work - Technologies are used to enhance learning, capture learning, and improve students' ICT skills.

At Holy Rosary, we strive to integrate technology in a way that is purposeful, collaborative and engaging.

We aim to enhance not only what we do in the classroom, but how we give students the skills and experiences that will prepare them to be lifelong learners and responsible digital citizens in an online world.

21st century education integrates technologies, engaging students in ways not previously possible, creating new learning and teaching possibilities, enhancing achievement and extending interactions with local and global communities.

MCEETYA – Contemporary Learning: Learning in an Online World (2005)

References
Melbourne Declaration: Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians 2008
SCSA - General Capabilities in ICT: http://k10outline.scsa.wa.edu.au/
Aitsl Standards: http://www.aitsl.edu.au