

VIDEO / DVD / FILM POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for appropriate use of Videos /DVDs/Films (Feature & Documentary) at St Patrick's College.

Education Videos/ DVDs /Films are a valuable teaching resource and their appropriate use in promoting learning is encouraged. They are often excellent sources of information, or portray places, people, events and emotions that otherwise would be difficult to capture in the classroom setting. Videos / DVDs / Films provide a window onto a wider world; they challenge students to greater understanding of issues and demand well-considered responses. They are an integral part of an active learning program.

Effective educational practice in the use of videos should include the following:

Documentation: (Pro-forma in Staffroom Folder)

- Videos/ DVDs /Films used in a particular area of study should be recorded in the curriculum documentation for the relevant subject, learning area and Department.
- A Video/ DVD /Film being used for the first time, or not included in the curriculum documentation, should be reported to the Head of Department, with a written précis, prior to being shown.
- Duplication of Videos/ DVDs /Films should be avoided across subjects, learning areas and Departments – students generally should not have to see the same Video/ DVD /Film twice. The Library should not be asked to issue Videos/ DVDs /Films for subjects not so documented.

Relevance:

- All Videos/ DVDs /Films should be relevant to the curriculum being taught at the time.
- Staff should have clear desired and demonstrated learning outcomes for each Video/ DVD /Film that is shown.
- Videos/ DVDs /Films should comprise part of an active learning program for students.
- Adequate student preparation prior to viewing is desirable, with follow-up in the form of discussion, questioning, or written exercises.
- In some subjects, short excerpts or clips, isolated from the film theme, may be used to illustrate teaching points.
- Videos/ DVDs /Films should not be shown in PC time except in special circumstances as part of a special program e.g. bullying. Videos/ DVDs /Films used as part of the teaching program should **never** be shown in PC time.

Suitability:

- Videos/ DVDs /Films should support the ethos of St Patrick's College.
- Videos/ DVDs /Films should be appropriate to the age level at which they are being shown

There are no legal restrictions on the screening of G, PG or M Videos/ DVDs /Films. They can legally be screened to children of any age. However, some parents

may object to their children being shown PG or M Videos/ DVDs /Films. In the case of PG films, parental guidance is recommended for children under 15, and in the case of M Videos/ DVDs /Films, these are suited to mature audiences and not recommended for anyone under 15. “The school may therefore wish to notify parents in advance so that a parent who does not wish his or her child to see the film can make other arrangements.” S.A. Classification

A summary of the ratings is:

G	For general exhibition
PG	Parental guidance recommended for persons under the age of fifteen years. PG Films do not require parental permission for students over 15 years of age.
M	Recommended for mature audiences fifteen years and over. St Patrick’s College teaching staff will notify parents of Year 10 –12 students in advance so that a parent can make other arrangements. M Films require permission until the end of Year 9/10.
MA 15+	Legally restricted to persons over 15 years unless accompanied by a parent or adult guardian (mere permission is not enough). No teacher is to show such Videos/DVDs/Films of MA classification to students in Years 7-9. MA Films may be shown with permission in Years 10, 11 or 12 as long as the film is prescribed in the syllabus. Permission from parents and Heads of Departments is essential (e.g. on the English syllabus for Years 11/12 and beyond, many films would be classified MA15+ such as The Shawshack Redemption, The Trumar Show, some Shakespeare (Macbeth/King Lear, Luhrmans’, Romeo & Juliet).
R	Restricted to adults eighteen years and over (parental permission makes no difference). Definitely not permitted to be shown
X 18+	Restricted to adults eighteen years and over. Definitely not permitted to be shown.

- If it is deemed necessary to move outside the boundaries of the G, PG or M classifications a letter must go home to parents.

- Videos/ DVDs /Films must always be **previewed** by staff before being shown to students
- Videos/ DVDs /Films should not ever be used for purely recreational purposes during class time.

Hiring of Videos/ DVDs /Films from Retailers:

In accordance with the Australian Copyright Council

- Videos/ DVDs /Films may not be hired to 'entertain' groups of students as this is not considered 'giving instruction'.
- Use of Videos/ DVDs /Films as a fundraiser, or for use with parents and the general public constitutes an infringement of the Act.

Video / DVD / Film Viewing Policy

St Patrick's College has a Video / DVD / Film (Feature & Documentary) Policy which provides guidelines for the appropriate use of these within the Teaching and Learning program. . Teaching staff are aware of the required documentation and relevance of Videos / DVDs / Films that can be shown to students.

R and X18+ classification Videos, Films and DVDs will never be shown by teachers or viewed by students at St Patrick's College. In some subjects, short excerpts or clips, isolated from the film theme, may be used to illustrate teaching points.

G films can be freely viewed.

PG films require parental guidance for persons under 15 years of age (Permission slip for students in Years 7-9 who are under 15).

M films are recommended for mature audiences 15 years and over (Letter to Year 9 students under 15 years of age).

MA15+ films are restricted to persons over 15 and will not be shown unless prescribed by the syllabus (in the event of any Year 10 student being under 15 years of age, proforma to be sent home).

Therefore, M films will never be shown to students under 15 years of age. For students over 15 years of age, teachers will seek parental permission in advance to view an MA film (prescribed in the syllabus) so that a parent / guardian may make other arrangements.

**Permission Slip for student in Years 7-9
to view PG Film**

I

parent/guardian of

....., a student

under 15 years of age, give permission for appropriate PG films

to be shown as part of the course content of particular subjects

within the St Patrick's College curriculum.

Signed:
Parent/Guardian

Date:

*Teachers of Humanities (Yr 7) and English (Years 8 & 9)
will complete this form at the first lesson of each academic year.*

**Permission Slip for student in Year 9/10 to view
M rated films/DVD/Videos for Education purposes.**

I (Teacher) wish to show:

Film/Video/DVD: (M rated)

In (Subject)

When:

Signature of Teacher:

I, **parent/guardian of**
....., a student under 15 years of age, give
permission / do not give permission for my son/daughter to view M rated film (or
clips there from) as part of the course content of particular subjects within the St
Patrick's College curriculum.

If you do not agree other arrangements can be made for your son/daughter.

Signed: Parent/Guardian

Date:

**Permission Slip for student in Year 11/12 to view
MA rated films/DVD/Videos for Education purposes.**

I (Teacher) wish to show:

Film/Video/DVD: (M rated)

In (Subject)

When:

Signature of Teacher:

I, **parent/guardian of**
....., a student in Yr 11/12, give permission /
do not give permission for my son/daughter to view MA rated film (or clips there
from) as part of the course content of particular subjects within the St Patrick's
College curriculum.

If you do not agree other arrangements can be made for your son/daughter.

Signed: Parent/Guardian

Date:

Approved by:	Principal/Board
Issuing Group:	Leadership Team
Implementation Date:	2003
Supersedes Policy Dated:	New Policy
Revision Date:	January 2009
Contact Officer:	Deputy Principal (Learning & Teaching)