POLICY ON ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION AND CYBER-BULLYING

The responsibility for the use of computer, internet and electronic communications at home is ultimately borne by the parents. Parents are to be informed and updated of the uses and abuses of such communications, also making sure that they have the right programs and filters installed in order to minimise any harm that can be done to children through adult websites. Social network sites and chats need to be monitored by the parents. Parents are also responsible for seeking assistance from the Senior Leadership Team in case of difficulty. The school's IT Department is willing to offer the support needed once help is sought. However, when the abuse of websites and Social Network sites like Facebook, Twitter, MSN, Youtube and others, affect teachers, other students, classroom dynamics or the school itself, disciplinary

measures will be taken.

- ✓ Talks about the good use of computers and Cyberbullying take place with students and parents per Grade.
- ✓ Social network sites and computer programs like Facebook, Twitter, MSN, Youtube and others shall be used for the right purposes. They shall not be used to exclude, make fun of or insult students or staff of the Stella Maris. The latter will be considered as Cyber-bullying which is considered as a major infringement of school regulations.
- ✓ Any photos or videos uploaded on the above websites and showing staff or students related to the school, school material, school property or the school uniform must be shown to the Headmaster before being uploaded. Material can only be uploaded or released with the Headmaster's consent.
- ✓ Students are not to communicate with teachers using the above Social Network sites or other sites available other than the teacher's school email. Students shall not ask teachers or Staff to be added or to join their network. Nor, shall they be in possession of teachers' mobile number or personal email addresses. **Respect of boundaries is trivial**.