INTERNET BANKING POLICY
St Kilda Park Primary School

Rationale:
Internet banking has become a very common banking practice that provides several distinct advantages, whilst at the same time offering high levels of security and convenience.

Aims:
To utilise the advantages of internet banking for our school whilst simultaneously enhancing banking security, increasing transaction speed, improving convenience and lessening environmental impact.

Implementation:
a. School Council, after carefully considering the costs, benefits, fraud prevention, internal controls, and information privacy implications etc, has authorised the use of internet banking at our school for the following facilities. In doing so, School Council requires that all actions related to internet banking are consistent with DEECD’s ‘S385-2007 School Internet Banking Guidelines’.
b. All payments through internet banking software are simply another form of payment from the school’s accounts and consistent with DEECD requirements, must be authorised by the Principal and one other member of council.
c. School Council approves CBA Bank CommBiz as the approved software for all of our internet banking activities.
d. Bank Reconciliations to take place fortnightly and at the end of the month to track movement in the Official Bank account which will be verified by a School Council signatory.

Direct Debit
a. A direct debit facility allows an external source eg: a regular supplier to remove funds of a pre-arranged amount from our school’s official account on a pre-arranged date. Typical examples may include annual insurance premiums or monthly lease payments.
b. The School Council requires all suppliers to provide tax invoice/statements to the school prior to direct debiting any funds from the school’s account.

‘Pay Anyone’ Facility
a. This form of internet banking allows the school to pay funds directly into a person’s or business’ nominated bank accounts eg: creditors or local payroll employee.
b. Internal controls surrounding the process at the school are critical. Such controls include:-
   i. Proper authorisation and approval of both the initial setting up of account details and any subsequent transactions against the account(s). The Principal and a School Council member only are authorised to use the security token associated with the CommBiz internet banking software.
   ii. The proper segregation of duties at all times.
   iii. The safe, secure and confidential storage of information and data, including the storage of PINs and security tokens in the school safe.
   iv. Proper retention of all transactions relating to accounts such as purchase orders, tax invoices/statements, vouchers, payroll listings, signed or initialled screen prints and payee details, relevant CASES21 reports etc, including Principal signed and dated internet transaction receipts attached to authorised payment vouchers.
v. The retention of printed payment receipts that display all details of a payment so as to confirm payment details.
vi. Compliance with all bank imposed security measures, limits and requirements.
vii. The provision of printed documentation to the finance committee, School Council and auditors as required.
viii. That alternative procedures using the ‘Pay-Anyone’ facility exist during periods when the Business Manager or the Principal are absent for an extended period.

**Evaluation:**

This policy is required to be reviewed annually by School Council to confirm/enhance internal control procedures.

This policy was last ratified by School Council on.... 2014