LIFE Learning Management System - Key Messages for Parents

• What is a Learning Management System (LMS) and what benefits and opportunities does it provide?
   An LMS is a resource to support learning and teaching in a contemporary online environment. It enables teacher access to current curriculum, support material and tools to facilitate planning for learning and teaching. An LMS enables teachers and students to personalise, access, collaborate and communicate in a variety of ways. An LMS also provides functionality to support student assessment and tracking, monitoring and reporting.

• What LMS has been chosen?
   Product name is LIFE; Vendor is Learnology.

• What is the school implementation process or model?
   School implementation of the LIFE LMS will be through an Action Learning Process supported by School Services. Each school will select a learning and teaching priority from their annual school plan to form the focus of the Action Learning Process and entry point into LIFE.

• Will learning outcomes be evaluated differently?
   Students will continue to be evaluated against the relevant Queensland and/or Australian Curricular. LIFE LMS will complement the existing school curriculum by providing digital learning tools that link in with planned classroom activities. Wireless access points at schools will foster collaboration and teamwork, allowing students to search for information together and share the learning experience.

• What about handwriting?
   Handwriting will continue to have a place in the classroom as well as the use of the keyboard.

• How will parents continue to be informed about the use of LIFE as a resource to support learning and teaching?
   A school’s newsletters and websites will provide updates to the whole school community about the use of the LIFE LMS by students and teachers in and out of the classroom.

• What about safe Internet use?
   Students are offered the LIFE LMS as a resource that facilitates anytime, anywhere learning. Teachers will supervise students as they would for any learning activity as they create and maintain a safe, comfortable and learning-focused classroom. Appropriate use of the Internet service within the BCE network is closely monitored by a filtering system that allows for inappropriate content blocking by a regularly updated list of categories and sites. This does not apply to use of devices outside of the school network.

   Education and support are important for maintaining acceptable use within the LMS when accessed outside of the classroom including at home. Like mobile phones, email and messaging systems it is possible that the collaboration tool features within LIFE could potentially be used for unacceptable purposes and to bully others. It is essential that all members of the community, students, parents and staff are aware of this potential and also of the school’s Bullying and Acceptable Use policies. Any incident of bullying or unacceptable use should be investigated and dealt with in accordance with these policies.

• The school monitors usage at school, but who monitors it at home?
   That is the responsibility of the parents. When off school grounds, parents have full authority to monitor usage of the LIFE LMS. Examples of this include:
   • encourage use in a family room and not in the bedroom and restrict use at certain times of the evening or weekend
   • examine contents of your child’s site

• Does the student require Internet access at home?
   There is no mandated expectation that Internet access is available at home. However your child will be able to access the LIFE LMS if there is an existing Internet provision at home.

• What support is available?
   If a student is having difficulty accessing or using the LIFE LMS, they should contact their classroom or pastoral care teacher and/or follow the support arrangements already in place in the school.