



The Ela Murray International School

Video / DVD / Film Viewing Policy (draft)

Educational videos, DVDs and films are a valuable teaching resource and their appropriate use in promoting learning is encouraged at TEMIS. 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 at TEMIS in the use of Video / DVDs / films should include the following:

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 / DVDs / 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.

Suitability:

- Videos / DVDs / films should support the ethos of the school and consider parental and societal standards. Be aware of the international nature of our school. We have students from a wide range of cultural and religious backgrounds.
- Videos / DVDs / films should be appropriate to the age level at which they are being shown.
- Videos / DVDs / films must always be previewed by staff BEFORE being shown to students.
- Videos / DVDs / films must always be checked for suitability through <http://www.oflc.gov.au>

Purpose:

- Videos / DVDs / films should not ever be used for purely recreational purposes during class time. They may be used on the last day of term or during the last week of term for part of the day.
- Staff must exercise professional discretion in showing videos / DVDs / films for recreational purposes e.g. wet weather break times.
- Exercise videos / DVDs should be a part of the total physical education program and should be used as a component of aerobic exercise or as a unit of dance and movement but should not be used in place of outside sport, except in cases of wet weather.

Viewing Policy at TEMIS:

Based on the rating scheme below, our policy is as follows:

- All Videos / DVDs / films shown should be rated G. Movies rated higher than this need the approval of the leadership team.
- If approval is given, parents must be informed by a letter home advising parents / caregivers of the particular film in question. Parents could be easily informed of the use of particular films used in the curriculum, through the Term Overview at the beginning of each term. Any objections to viewing any of the films can be returned to the staff member and alternative films can be arranged or that student should be provided with other meaningful tasks in another location during the viewing of the film.

Ratings:

TEMIS has chosen to follow the ratings scheme set down by The Australian Office of Film and Literature Classification. The Office of Film and Literature Classification is the basis for all Australian viewing rules. Each program is rated according to its content. In 2005, a common rating scheme was developed to encompass videos and games. However, previous movie ratings still apply to films.

Schools are deemed to be “showing” films, although not for profit, and it still comes under the Australian Legislation that guides and rules who can view and who needs consent.

The following is mandatory and cannot be changed by teachers at TEMIS.

The Classification Scheme is as follows.

Advisory Classifications – G, PG and M



This classification is for a general audience. There may be some film and computer games in this category that are of no interest to students. *Under 15 years of age are able to watch.*



Material in this classification might upset, frighten, or confuse students, and an adult may be required to provide guidance for students. *Parental guidance is required.*



This classification is recommended for students who are 15 years and over.

It is not against the law to show this material to younger students, however, this category is more suited to mature audiences because the films and computer games may contain themes and scenes which require a mature perspective. LOW level violence and adult themes.

Students over the age of 15 can watch this movie



This classification is also suited to students who are 15 years and over.

Material in this classification is of MEDIUM level violence and adult themes.

All Students, even those 15 years and older require parental permission.



This classification is also suited to students who are 15 years and over.

Material in this classification is **legally restricted**. The restrictions apply to persons who are under 15 years.

All Students, even those 15 years and older require parental permission.

This classification applies only to films.



The material in this classification is for ADULT audiences.

Not allowed to be shown at school, parental permission does not make a difference.