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Schools are encouraged to share this document with parents, guardians and communities, as appropriate.

Any websites referenced in this document are subject to change. Educators are advised to preview and evaluate websites and online resources before recommending them for student use.

Print copies of this resource can be purchased from the Manitoba Text Book Bureau (stock number 80549). Order online at <www.mtbb.ca>.

This resource is also available on the Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth website at <www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/tech/lict/index.html>.

Ce document est disponible en français.

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This Handbook provides you with information about new ways your child is learning in today's classroom.

Children today live and learn in a world that is different from the world in which we grew up. Information grows so quickly that the amount of information in the world is said to double every two years. At this rate, textbooks, maps, encyclopedias and most printed material can be outdated by the time they reach our children's hands.

At the same time, today's students communicate using technology like websites, texting, chat, email and blogs.

Even the meaning of literacy has changed. Literacy is not only about reading, writing, listening, speaking, viewing and representing. It is also about developing **literacy with information and communication technology** (**ICT**). Our children face an exciting but challenging future. How do we prepare them to succeed in a world that changes so quickly?

Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth has created a developmental continuum, an assessment tool used by teachers, called *Literacy with Information and Communication Technology Across the Curriculum* to set a path for teachers and students to follow.

Inside this handbook you will see what Literacy with ICT might look like in your child's classroom. You will also discover ways that you, as a parent or guardian can support your child's use of ICT at home in safe and responsible ways. By working together, we can all help prepare our children for the world in which they live.

