



Issued 2004
Revised 2009, 2014
Review 2019

SACRED HEART PRIMARY SCHOOL

MOBILE PHONE POLICY

Rationale

Mobile phones are part of modern society and the School which includes the OSHC Centre accepts that students will possess mobile phones. There are times when it may be genuinely appropriate and useful for students to have access to them, however, the ever-changing mobile phone technology presents a number of challenges to the school environment. These include:

- Mobile phones interrupting lessons and disturbing the learning of others
- Loss and theft of mobile phones
- Mobile phones being used inappropriately (for illicit text or photos)
- Mobile phones being used inappropriately on excursions and other school related events
- Issues of social status, peer pressure, socialisation and harassment

Principles and Procedures

Sacred Heart School has in place appropriate methods, through the Front Office for parents to contact students and vice versa. It is preferred that students do not have mobile phones at school. Students should only require a mobile phone if they walk, ride a bike or catch a bus to school. When students do bring them, the following policy applies:

- On arrival at school, mobile phones must be switched off and handed to the classroom teacher. The phone shall be collected from the classroom teacher at the end of the school day.
- The school accepts no responsibility for mobile phones that are brought to school. It is the responsibility of the student to safeguard against misplacement, loss or theft.
- Use of a phone in school hours will result in the phone being confiscated by the teacher and placed at the front office. A letter will be sent to the student's parents from the Principal asking them to contact the school to arrange collection at the end of the week.
- Use of mobile phones during out of school functions arranged by the school including excursions, camps, and retreats will not be permitted. Arrangements are in place for communication with a staff member in the case of an emergency.

- Staff will also have mobile phones switched off in class and at other times that could disrupt the daily activities of the school.

If the policy is not followed then:

1. There will be a letter sent home to parents informing them of the matter and a warning is registered and noted.
2. Any re-occurrence will result in an in-school detention.
3. For serious breaches, permanent exclusion may be necessary in line with Sacred Heart's Student Use of Information and Communication Technology Policy.