



St Francis de Sales Mobile Phone and Smart Device Policy

There are an increasing number of parents/guardians who for safety, security and/or emergency purposes wish to provide their children with mobile phones when they are travelling to and from school. This policy details the conditions under which mobile phones are permitted at the school.

Mobile phones are unnecessary during school hours as a method of communicating with students given the primary school setting. Our school expectation is that Mobile phones are not used during school hours under any circumstances. No mobile phones are to be taken by students on excursions, camps or used at school functions such as at a school disco, sporting events or concerts.

Students will only be permitted to bring a mobile phone onto the school premises for safety, security or emergency purposes and with permission. Parents/Guardians who require their child to carry a mobile phone on school premises must agree to abide by the conditions of use and must complete an *Application for Student Use of a Mobile Phone*.

It is important that teaching and learning be conducted in an environment free from unnecessary distractions or disruptions. Mobile phones will therefore only be permitted at school where its usage is not detrimental to students or their learning.

All other smart devices such as Smart Watches are **NOT** permitted at school. (Smart device is any technology capable of making/receiving a call or sending/receiving a voice, text or image, or playing a game.) iPod touch or any other form of handheld game or music player must not be brought into school.

Conditions of Use

1. Students are not to bring personal mobile phones to school unless parents have gained written permission from the Principal/Deputy Principal. (see Attachment 1 – *Application for Student Use of a Mobile Phone*).
2. Requests will only be approved if required for safety, security or emergency use.
3. Phones should be clearly marked so that each pupil knows their own phone.
4. Mobile phones **MUST BE SWITCHED OFF** and handed in to the school office between 8:30 and 8:45am, where they will be logged in. At the end of the day they can be collected by students at 3:20pm.

5. Students will not have access to their mobile phone during school hours and any emergency calls that need to be made are to be made through the General Office.
6. Mobile phones must not be used to make calls, send SMS messages, surf the internet, take photos/videos or access any other application during school hours. (Students must not take any photographs or film other students or school community members at any time without their consent.)
7. Phones are not to be used by other students.
8. The school does not accept responsibility for loss of and/or damage to mobile phones.
9. Students will display courtesy, consideration and respect for others when using a mobile phone.
10. No mobile phones are to be taken by students on excursions, camps or used at school functions such as at a school disco, Sporting events or Concerts.
11. The Principal may revoke a student's privilege of bringing or using mobile phones at school.

Contravention of this policy will result in the confiscation of the mobile phone/smart device. It will be kept in the office where it can be collected at the end of the day. In this circumstance the student's parent will be notified.

Attachments

1. *Application for Student Use of a Mobile Phone*

Related Policies

- Acceptable Use of ICT Agreement

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's two-year review cycle. This policy was last ratified by School Advisory Board in July 2019.

APPLICATION



FOR STUDENT

USE OF A MOBILE PHONE

Student's Name:

Year: _____ **Learning Space:** _____ **Home Room:** _____

Teacher: _____

Student Mobile No: _____

Parent Contact No: _____

I wish to apply for permission for my son/daughter to carry a mobile phone on school premises.

- The carrying of a mobile phone is for safety, security or emergency use.
- We (parents/guardians/student) agree to the conditions set down under 'Conditions of Use' and understand that violation of the policy may result in loss of privilege to carry a mobile phone at the school.

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Approved

Principal Signature: _____