



St Joseph's School  
Port Lincoln

*In all things love*

# Student Mobile Phone Policy

## Policy Statement

St Joseph's School maintains an environment where mobile technology is used in a way that is safe, respectful and allows effective teaching and learning to take place.

## Rationale

St Joseph's School:

- Believes students need to be aware of their responsibility in fostering a Christian community in which the individual is respected and in which the individual is sensitive to the needs of the group.
- Believes students are responsible in nurturing a study environment that respects the right of students to learn and the right for teachers to teach.
- Believes students need to develop the ability to be discerning in their behaviour and to be fully responsible for their actions.
- Believes that as a community, adults have a responsibility to guide and model students' appropriate behavioural choices i.e. staff should not be seen using phones in class time.
- Believes students need to be given the opportunities and skills to operate in an innovative and ever changing society.

## Values

St Joseph's School values:

- Respect
- Responsibility

## Responsibilities

St Joseph's School staff will:

- Reinforce that the using of mobile phones to listen to music is **now unacceptable**. If teachers wish for students to listen to music as part of their teaching practice then students are to do so via the school approved laptop. The normal consequences for a breach of this rule still applies.
- Be aware of the impact their modelled behaviour has on students and refrain from using personal mobile phones during lesson time.

Date approved: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Date of next review: June 2021

Related Policies: Acceptable use of Information Communication Technology Policy; Bullying and Harassment Policy; Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect

### **St Joseph's School students will:**

- Be encouraged not to bring their mobile phones to school. If a student does bring a mobile phone to school, they do so entirely at their own risk. No responsibility for damaged, lost or stolen phones will be taken by the school.
- If needing to use a phone for an emergency or due to illness, to contact their parents, do so through the Student Desk at the Front Office.
- Keep mobile phones in their bags / lockers and **not use them at any time on the school site** unless specifically requested otherwise by a teacher for a particular class activity. After the class activity is completed the phones are to be returned to the bags / lockers.

### **Parents of students at St Joseph's School will:**

- Ring the Front Office if they wish to make contact with their child. Admin staff will then relay a message to the child at an appropriate time so as not to interrupt lessons.
- Respect the school rules and support the staff in implementing them.

### **St Joseph's School Board will:**

- Monitor and review the Policy in accordance with CESA guidelines and best practice teaching.

### **Breaches of this Policy will be dealt with in the following manner:**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Occasion – Consequence**

If a student is seen using a mobile phone in breach of the above objectives the student will be asked to go to the Front Office and hand in their mobile phone. At the end of the day the student may collect their phone from the Front Office. This will be recorded in Seqta and at the Front Office. The teacher will remind the student of the school Mobile Phone Policy and warn them of the future consequences for inappropriate mobile phone use during school hours. If a student refuses to hand in the phone, or does not take their phone to the front office immediately, it then becomes a behavioural issue and the 3<sup>rd</sup> consequence will apply.

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Occasion – Consequence**

The student will be asked to go to the Front Office and hand in their mobile phone. This will be recorded in Seqta at the Front Office. At the end of the day the student may collect their mobile phone from the Office after speaking to the Pastoral Care Co-Leader. The student is reminded of the school Mobile Phone Policy and warned of the further consequences for inappropriate mobile phone use during school hours. A Friday afternoon Detention will be issued by the Pastoral Care Co-Leader for failing to comply with the mobile phone policy.

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### 3rd Occasion – Consequence

The third reported occasion of mobile phone use during school hours is seen as ongoing behaviour and indicates a person is continually disregarding school policy. The phone will be passed on to the Deputy Principal who will request an interview with the student and their parents to discuss the ongoing failure to comply with the mobile phone policy. An appropriate consequence will be issued. This may result in suspension.

More serious breaches will be dealt with on an individual basis. Such breaches may include but is not limited to:

- Accessing, storing or distributing content that the school deems to be inappropriate, such as pornography, graphic violence, or material of a degrading or humiliating nature.
- Taking still pictures, video or audio recordings of an individual without their consent
- Sending text or media of a sexual nature or bullying.

In these situations:

- Leadership will ask the student to unlock their phone to look for inappropriate material. If the student refuses, the phone will be confiscated to be handed to Police.
- Outside agencies may be contacted, who may investigate whether the behaviour is in breach of any laws or the Child Abuse and Neglect legislation. In these cases the school will take no responsibility for the actions of an individual who is in breach of the policy.
- The Principal will decide on the consequence and the student's continuing participation in the school community.

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