



Mobile Device Guidelines and Expectations

GOSPEL VALUES

At St John the Baptist Primary School we strive to promote the Gospel values of fairness, equal rights, respect for differences, dignity, responsibility, knowledge of self, others & the environment, trust, faith, hope and love.

PURPOSE

To ensure that mobile phone, smartwatch and other personal mobile devices usage is effectively managed. These devices can disrupt the learning environment and are to be accessed only when students are travelling to and from school.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- All students at St John the Baptist (St John's) and,
- Students' personal mobile phones, smartwatches and other personal mobile devices brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.

DEFINITIONS

A mobile device is a device with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network.

A smartwatch is a wearable computer in the form of a watch. Modern smartwatches have more general functionality closer to smartphones, including mobile apps, camera/recording functions and Wi-Fi/Bluetooth connectivity. Some smartwatches function as portable media players, with FM radio and playback digital audio and video files. Some smartwatches have mobile cellular functionality allowing them to make calls.

For the purpose of these guidelines, "mobile device" refers to any device that may connect to or have similar functionality to a mobile phone such as a smartwatch.

POLICY

St John's school aims to provide a happy, safe and stimulating learning environment for all students. The school understands that there are times when possession of a mobile device can provide a sense of safety and security when traveling to and from school. However, mobile devices are not permitted to be used during school hours.

Mobile devices owned by students at St John's are considered valuable items and are brought to the school at the owner's (student/parent/guardian/carer's) risk. The school does not accept responsibility for lost or damaged student mobile devices.

Students are encouraged not to bring mobile devices to school unless there is a compelling reason to do so.

Student behavioural expectations

When bringing a mobile device to school, students are required to:

- Hand mobile devices including smartwatches into the office upon arrival at school.
- Not be used on school grounds.

Misuse of mobile devices

Students misusing their mobile device at school will be given a warning. On the second occasion they will have the device taken and the parent/guardian/carer will be required to collect the device from the school.

However, if there has been serious misuse of the mobile device (cyber bullying, inappropriate content etc), it will be removed from the students immediately and the parents contacted.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Included in our staff handbook
- Included as annual reference in school newsletter
- Made available in hard copy from the school administration upon request.

RELATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

This policy is to be read in conjunction with other related school policies, procedures, documents and codes. These include:

- Acceptable User Agreement (will be affected by the changes)
- Child Safety Code of Conduct
- ICT Student Agreement – Acceptable Use (will be affected by the changes)
- Related DOSCEL policies

POLICY STATUS AND REVIEW

Implementation Date:

- February 2026

Consultation:

- ICT support
- Executive leadership
- School Consultative Board

Review Date:

- February 2028