



**St. Luke's
Catholic Primary School**
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Personal Mobile Device Policy

COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY

All students enrolled, and any student visiting, have a right to feel safe and be safe. The wellbeing of children in our care will always be our first priority and we have zero tolerance to child abuse. We aim to create a child safe and child friendly environment where children feel safe and are free to enjoy life to the fullest without any concern for their safety.

PURPOSE

As a communication tool, personal mobile devices, when used appropriately, offer students and their parents many advantages in terms of ease of communication and a sense of personal safety. However, personal mobile devices have the capacity to have a negative impact on the learning environment and the safety and well-being of students. For the purpose of this policy St Luke's defines mobile devices as any device that has the ability to record, receive/send calls and messages. Examples could be but are not restricted to a phone, personal ipad or a smart watch.

SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines for the use of student personal mobile devices within the school environment and sets out the responsibility of staff, parents and students.

SCHOOL SUPERVISED HOURS

8:30am-3:40pm

SCHOOL GROUNDS

Students may communicate with parents once on the bus, which is before 3:40pm. This does not include bus travel to and from school excursions unless advised.

GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

1. Students are not to bring personal mobile devices to school unless permission from the Principal has been successfully sought, by parents who have outlined the health, safety or personal reasons that justify the student being in possession of a personal mobile device. Eg. traveling to and from school on public transport.
2. Personal mobile devices (other than smart watches) which are brought to school after this permission has been obtained, must be handed in at the office each morning. The student is responsible for collecting the personal mobile device each afternoon.
3. Any communication between parents and children during school hours MUST be done so through the school office.
4. The school does not accept responsibility for lost or damaged student personal mobile devices.
5. Misusing personal mobile devices at school will be brought to the attention of the Principal.
6. Students must not lend personal mobile devices to another student for use as a phone, for text messaging or for use as a camera or video recording device. The student who owns the device will be held responsible for its use.
7. Where the mobile device (smart watches included) has been misused it will be retained in the office until it can be collected by a parent.
8. The Principal may revoke a student's privilege of bringing personal mobile devices to school if breaches of the policy occur at any time.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR MOBILE DEVICES

Students who bring personal mobile devices to school do so at their own risk – the school and school staff members will not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage to devices or for investigating loss or damage.

RELATED TECHNOLOGY

The procedures applying to the inappropriate use and security of mobile devices, apply equally to the inappropriate use of the internet, portable computer games, iPods and similar devices. For example, the use of smart watches is for the telling of time in the school setting. Other apps are not required for school learning activities. They are not to be used as phones, cameras or gaming devices.

REINFORCEMENT OF POLICY

1. Teachers will discuss this policy with students in their class.
2. When inappropriate use is detected it will be dealt with in terms of this policy, thereby reinforcing the policy.
3. The community will be made aware of the policy in the newsletter, on PAM and the website.