



## MOBILE PHONE POLICY

### **Rationale:**

As a school, we recognize that Mobile Phones are an important modern day communication tool valued by a significant number of people. Many students now own or have access to mobile phones which are being brought to school with increasing frequency. This can cause a safety and security risk. Students must not bring mobile phones on to the school site during school times unless there are exceptional reasons for doing so.

For the purpose of this policy it is assumed that parental contact with students during the day will be via the school office.

### **Aims:**

- To ensure mobile telephones do not interfere with the effective conduct of school and classroom activities.
- To protect the privacy of individuals.
- To ensure that procedures are in place to minimize theft and damage of mobile phones.

### **Implementation:**

- Students are not to bring personal mobile phones to school unless written permission from the Principal has been successfully sought by parents who have outlined the health, safety or personal reasons that justify the student being possession of a mobile phone.
- Where permission has been approved mobile phones will remain in the student's school bag throughout the day.
- Mobile phones must not be taken into the yard during recess or lunch breaks or into class, meetings, assemblies, school excursions, camps or other organized activities.
- All contact between parents and students during the school day will be via the general office or classroom teacher.
- Parents will be advised via school newsletter, assemblies of the security issues regarding the bringing of mobile phones and other valuable objects to school.
- In-phone cameras are not to be used anywhere a normal camera would be considered inappropriate or where it would be deemed as an invasion of privacy.
- Appropriate action will be taken against any student who photographs, or films other individuals without their consent or who sends harassing or threatening messages.
- The school will not accept responsibility for any loss, theft or damage to mobile phones at school or school events. Nor will the school accept not responsibility for loss, theft or damage of mobile phones whilst in possession of students traveling to and from school.

### **Evaluation:**

- This policy will be reviewed as a part of the school's three year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

August 2009