

St Anne's Mobile Phone Agreement

Rationale

St Anne's Catholic Primary School recognises that mobile phones are an important communication tool. Therefore, some parents/guardians require their child/ren to bring their mobile phones to school for before and after school use to provide safety and security.

St Anne's Primary School has developed this agreement and associated procedures to provide staff members, students, parents and carers with clear guidelines on mobile phone restrictions, exemptions and storage requirements at school.

This policy took effect at the commencement of the 2022 school year and complies with the direction of the Victorian Minister for Education under Section 5.2.1(2)(b) of the Education and Training Reform Act 2006.

Aim

To ensure that teachers, students and parents take steps to ensure that mobile phones are used responsibly and potential problems are managed proactively.

Guidelines

- Students are not to bring mobile phones or smart watches to school unless parents have given permission on Operoo.
- Students are able to bring personal mobile phones to school for health, safety or personal reasons
- Once students enter into school grounds, phones should be switched off and put in their school bag for the remainder of the day
- When emergencies occur, parents or carers should reach their child by calling the school office
- If a student is seen to be using a mobile phone during school hours, the phone will be confiscated for the remainder of the day. Second and subsequent offences will result in the phone being confiscated and retained until a meeting between the Principal, student and parent/s
- At the end of the day students are able to check their messages or contact families while on school grounds but features such as audio/video recording or apps should not be accessed until they've left the school ground
- The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones
- If a student is wearing a smartwatch that has features similar to a phone, phone calls and messaging features need to be disabled while at school. Students who are using their smart watch to play games or access other applications during school hours will have their smart watch confiscated and returned to parents at the end of the day.
- Mobile phones will not be connected to the St Anne's Primary School network

Parent/Guardian Permission for Mobile Phones and Smart Watches - Operoo

I have read and understood the information in the guidelines about appropriate use of mobile phones and smart watches at St Anne's Primary School.

My child will be bringing a mobile phone school:

- In giving my child permission to carry a mobile phone to school, I understand that my child will be responsible for adhering to the conditions of use described in the guidelines and will accept any consequences for its misuse.
- I understand that my child's mobile phone must be switched off and kept in their school bag.
- I understand that if circumstances should change regarding my child's use of the mobile phone, the school will be notified of the changes.
- I understand that the school accepts no responsibility for lost or damaged mobile phones.

My child will be wearing a smartwatch to school:

- In giving my child permission to wear a smartwatch to school, I understand that my child will be responsible for adhering to the conditions of use described in the guidelines and will accept any consequences for its misuse.
- I understand that my child's smart watch must have the ability to call or message switched off during school hours
- I understand that if my child uses applications on their smart watch such as games, they will have their watch confiscated and returned to me (the parent) at the end of the day.
- I understand that if circumstances should change regarding my child's use of the smart watch, the school will be notified of the changes.
- I understand that the school accepts no responsibility for lost or damaged smart watches.

