

# HOLY ROSARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

## MOBILE PHONE POLICY



*The policy is designed to assist in managing the safe and responsible use of mobile phones by students and involves parents as partners in assisting their children in the proper use of mobile phones and devices.*

### **RATIONALE**

The mobile phone is an effective and quick means of communication. Where unforeseen events occur, mobile phones provide students and their families with a ready means of communication. There is a need, however, to set clear guidelines and limit their use during the school day, in particular, to avoid unnecessary interference with teaching and learning.

In normal circumstances, parents or caregivers wishing to leave messages for their children should do so by telephoning the School. Staff endeavours to ensure that messages are passed on during class breaks.

Front office staff will also assist students who need to contact family or other persons in an emergency.

### **GUIDELINES**

- Students are discouraged from bringing their mobile phones to school, unless special circumstances arise (i.e. catching bus, walking home, etc.)
- Holy Rosary Catholic School takes no responsibility for the safety of a mobile phone when brought to school.
- All mobile phones must be stored securely in the students' school bag.
- Students must refrain from checking or using their mobile phones between the start of the school day (8.30am) and the end of the school day (2.50pm).
- If parents need to contact children during the school day, the current procedure of phoning the school office applies.
- Students need to be aware of the implications of inappropriate messages.
- Repeated failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the mobile phone being confiscated and secured by the school. The phone will be returned when the student's parents have contacted the school and discussed the guidelines with a member of the Leadership Team.

### **EVALUATION**

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

**March 2016**