



Mobile Phone Policy

Rationale

Mobile phones, smart watches and electronic devices have become an important and invaluable part of our modern lifestyle. The school understands that there are times when possession of a mobile phone or smart watch can provide a sense of safety and security while travelling to and from school.

Mobile phones, smart watches or personal electronic devices are unnecessary during school hours as a method of communicating with students given the primary school setting. There are also concerns about the misuse of mobile phones, smart watches and electronic devices in a school environment e.g. bullying, interruptions in class, distraction, inappropriate photography.

Aims

The school aims to provide a happy, safe and stimulating learning environment for all students. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that mobile phone, smart watches or personal electronic devices usage does not disrupt this learning environment. The policy seeks to clarify the responsibilities of staff and students with regard to mobile phones, smart watches and personal devices.

Implementation

In general, students should not bring valuable items to school – as they can be easily lost or stolen, which is often distressing for a child. However, if a mobile phone, smart watch or a personal electronic device is required for the reasons of safety for travelling to and from school, the child will be required to deliver the device to the School Office for safe keeping until the end of the school day.

Parents and students are advised that in bringing mobile phones, smart watches or personal electronic devices to school, they are doing so at their own risk and must comply with this policy and the Mobile Phone, Smart Watch & Personal Electronic Device Code of Practice.

It has always been the school's practice to pass on important messages to students throughout the day. This can be done by phoning the School Office and requesting that a message be given to the child.

No mobile phones, smart watches or personal electronic devices are to be taken on excursions. All students found to be using the mobile phone, smart watch or personal electronic device in an inappropriate manner e.g. bullying, inappropriate photography or texts, will have the phone confiscated and returned to the parent. The student would also be subject to disciplinary action.

St Anthony's Primary School Mobile Phone Policy	Date: 12 th March 2021
Version 1.1	Date for Revision: 12 th March 2023



Mobile Phone Code of Conduct

I agree to abide by the following rules when I bring my mobile phone, smart watch or personal electronic device to school:

1. When I bring my mobile phone, smart watch or personal electronic device to school I will turn it off and hand it to the office staff before the start of school each morning. The mobile phone, smart watch or personal electronic device will be locked away securely and returned to me at the end of the day.
2. I will not have access to my mobile phone, smart watch or personal electronic device during school hours and any phone calls that need to be made are to be made through the General Office. If anyone needs to contact me during the school day they are to phone the General Office and leave a message.

Outside of school hours of 8.50am to 3.20pm, while I am on school property, I understand that the following rules apply:

- ☐ I understand that my mobile phone is to contact family members to organise how I will get home from school.
- ☐ I will hand up my mobile phone to the office at the beginning of the day and collect at the final bell at the end of the day.
- ☐ I will respect St Anthony's Primary School name, crest, its staff and its students by not storing images on my phone or publishing images on social media.
- ☐ I will not use my mobile phone in the schoolyard, before or after school, to make calls, text, use the camera or internet, or use social media or music.
- ☐ I do not give out the personal details of another person.
- ☐ I report to a teacher or my parent or guardian any SMS/picture/video messages or phone calls that are unpleasant or make me feel uncomfortable in any way.
- ☐ I understand that breeches of the mobile phone, smart watch or personal electronic device Code of Practice may result in my being forbidden from bringing my phone to school.

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Name:	
I have a special circumstance to bring in my mobile phone....	

Date:		
Student Name	Parent Name	Teacher Name
Student Signature	Parent Signature	Teacher Signature