



# Mobile Phone and Communication Devices Policy

## PARENT COPY

St Carlo Borromeo Primary School

### MOBILE PHONE AND COMMUNICATION DEVICES POLICY

#### **Rationale:**

Mobile phones and Communication Devices such as Apple Watches have become an important and invaluable part of our modern lifestyle. The school understands that there are times when possession of such devices can provide a sense of safety and security while travelling to and from school.

Mobile phones and Communication 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 technology 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 and other communication devices usage does not disrupt this learning environment.

The policy seeks to clarify the responsibilities of staff and students with regard to technology 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 technology device is required for the reasons of safety for travelling to and from school the child will be required to deliver the phone to the class teacher for safe keeping until the end of the school day.

Parents and students are advised that in bringing mobile phones or other communication devices to school, they are doing so at their own risk and must comply with this policy and the Mobile Phone and Communication Devices 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 or other communication devices are to be taken on excursions by the students.

All students found to be using the 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.

#### **Evaluation:**

This policy was ratified by the School Council in and will be reviewed as part of the school's review cycle and in the event of any incident which may prompt a review of the policy.

# Mobile Phone and Communication Devices Code of Practice:

I agree to abide by the following rules when I bring my mobile phone or communication device to school:

1. When I bring my mobile phone or communication device to school I will turn it off and hand it to the class teacher before the start of school each morning. The 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 or communication device during school hours and any contact that needs 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.

3. While I am on school property, during school hours 8.45am to 3.30pm, I understand that the following rules apply:

- I do not give out the personal details of another person.
- I do not give out phone numbers without the permission of the person or people concerned.
- I do not send sms/picture/video/voice messages or make phone calls.
- I do not take a photograph or make a video or voice recordings.
- 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 and communication devices code of practice may result in my being forbidden from bringing my technology device to school.

## Student/Parent Mobile Phone and Communication Device Usage Agreement

I /Child's name \_\_\_\_\_

Agree to abide by the School's mobile phone and communication device code of practice. I understand that if I breach any of these rules I may lose the right to bring a technology device to school.

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this signed agreement to school as soon as possible**