

Policy M308**St Mary's Mobile Phone Policy*****Preamble***

St Mary's Community acknowledges that providing a child with a mobile phone gives parents reassurance that their child can contact them in emergency situations or in risk situations involving personal security and safety.

During the school day when students have access to school phones and personnel, there is no justifiable reason or educational purpose for students to access their mobile phones.

Values

The St Mary's school aims to establish a safe, uninterrupted learning environment where students are encouraged to show self discipline and respect for others.

Policy

No student is to access a mobile phone during the school day. All communication is to be conducted through the school office.

Consequences

The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones.

Mobile phones should be clearly marked with the name of the owner.

It is a criminal offence to use mobile phones to menace, harass or offend another person. Students must not use a mobile phone to engage in personal attacks, harass another person or post private information about another person (by SMS messages, photos, images or voice.)

Should a mobile phone need to be brought to school the following procedures must be followed:

1. Permission must be sought and given by the Principal and as part of this process the parent/caregiver of the child must also sign acknowledging approval.
2. The mobile phone must be turned off during school hours.

Permission to bring a mobile phone to school or on school camps/excursions will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.