



Holy Family Senior School

Personal Mobile Phone & Internet Enabled Electronic Devices Policy



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Introduction

Holy Family Senior School is a community where pupils, teachers, parents and guardians work together to ensure that all pupils feel happy and valued and are afforded every opportunity to flourish as learners and individuals. This policy outlines the appropriate use of mobile phones and internet enabled electronic devices in Holy Family Senior School. This policy was drawn up in response to technological advances, which have seen a significant increase in personal mobile phones and internet enabled electronic devices amongst the school population over recent years. The school acknowledges the value of the appropriate use of such devices and also the damage that such devices pose to pupil wellbeing when used inappropriately.

Rationale

The rationale of this policy is to ensure that personal mobile phones and internet enabled electronic devices do not negatively impact on the wellbeing and education of pupils of our school.

Relationship to Characteristic Spirit of the School

Holy Family Senior School aspires to achieve the full potential of each child with particular concern for those who are disadvantaged or marginalised. The use of personal mobile phones and internet enabled electronic devices contravenes the provision of a safe and secure school environment and is not conducive learning – a provision which is central to the mission statement and ethos of Holy Family Senior Primary School.

Aims

The aim of this policy is

- To ensure child safety and wellbeing of each child in Holy Family Senior School.
- To lessen intrusions on and distractions to children's learning during the school day.
- To ensure children have maximum opportunities to socialise positively during break times.
- To ensure that personal mobile phones and internet enabled electronic devices are not used by children in our school.
- To facilitate appropriate educational use of school owned internet enabled electronic devices such as computers and tablets in a supervised, responsible manner for the facilitation of pupil learning.

Procedures for Pupils

Pupils are not allowed to bring mobile phones and internet enabled electronic devices into school.

Parents may contact their children through the school office if necessary.

Any pupil who brings a mobile phone or electronic device to school will have it confiscated and parents will be contacted.

Liability for any loss, damage or theft of any device is NOT under any circumstance the responsibility of the staff or Board of Management.

Use of mobile phones and internet enabled electronic devices are not permitted during school activities such as Homework Club, School Tours, After-School Activities etc.

The use of School owned electronic devices (iPads/ laptops etc.) is strictly under the supervision of staff and in line with our IT Policy and Acceptable Usage Policy.

Additionally, the school staff and Board of Management will ensure regular educational talks by experts for pupils, parents and staff to endeavour to keep pupils and parents educated on any risks associated with mobile phones and internet enabled electronic devices – such as cyber bullying, social media security and content.

Procedures for Staff

Staff should use the school landline or school mobile to contact outside agencies and or parents in relation to school business and in cases where the above is not possible, staff may use their personal mobile phone. Staff should ensure that pupils in their care are supervised during any such calls.

Staff may use their personal devices to contact school management in an emergency or where otherwise agreed.

The Board of Management accepts no responsibility for the use of staff personal devices unless agreed beforehand with the Principal or where the use of such device is needed in an emergency.

Roles and Responsibilities

All members of the school community will share in the co-ordination and implementation of this policy.

Implementation

This policy will be implemented upon ratification by the Board of Management.

Timeframe for Review

This policy will be monitored on an ongoing basis and amendments added as the need arises.

Ratification

This policy was ratified by the Board of Management on _____

Signed: _____
Chairperson