



Students' use of Mobile Phones in Schools

Rationale and Objectives

Students do not need to bring mobile phones to school. Mobile phone use at school can impact student learning and wellbeing. Restricting mobile phone use at St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School aims to increase focus in classrooms, remove distractions and promote positive social interaction, while reducing the potential for online bullying and a privacy breach. At SJB we foster a safe learning environment which supports and enhances each child's social and emotional health through our wellbeing and learning support programs.

At SJB school we use the following approach. All mobile phones will be 'off and away' for the full school day, including before school, recess and lunch. This means that students will have the responsibility of turning off their mobile phone and storing it safely in their school bag for the course of the school day. This will limit unnecessary distractions and complement our ongoing approach to ensure every student maximises their learning and social growth in a safe and supportive environment.

Contacting students

SJB School understands there will always be times when parents need to get in contact with students or vice versa during the school day. We try to keep this to a minimum, with the exception of emergencies, to avoid disturbing the students' learning. Parents and carers can make contact with the school through the school office and students will also be able to contact parents or carers through the school office if urgent. If there is an extenuating circumstance where a student needs to check their phone after school to access parental messages, it will be done in the presence of a staff member and then returned to their school bag.

Confiscation

If a student brings a mobile phone to school and uses it during the school day, the phone will be temporarily confiscated and returned at the end of the day. If this occurs for a second time, the phone will be confiscated and kept with the principal until the parent comes to collect it.

It is important to note that neither the school nor individual staff members can accept responsibility for any loss or damage to a student's mobile phone.