SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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MOBILE PHONE, DEVICE AND WEARABLE TECHNOLOGIES PROTOCOL

RATIONALE

In Sacred Heart Catholic School parents/carers are always welcome to contact our administration office in relation to their child.

At Sacred Heart Catholic School, we actively promote positive learning environments ensuring opportunities for safe social interactions and where physical activity is encouraged. We also acknowledge that while technology is a part of the everyday life of children and young people, including how they learn, communicate, work and play, it also is the responsibility of our school to ensure disruptions to learning are minimised wherever possible.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this protocol is to ensure that students and parents/carers understand the expectations in relation to students with mobile phones, devices and wearable technologies and consequences of using these devices without an exemption approved by the Principal.

Sacred Heart Catholic School acknowledges that:

- The right of every student and staff member to a safe and respectful school environment is protected.
- The right of every student and staff member to learn and teach in a mutually supportive environment is protected.
- Students, staff, and parents/guardians/carers are able to interact in harmony.
- Empathy, understanding, responsibility and accountability within the student body are promoted through encouraging students to reflect on choices and the impact of those choices on others.
- Student behaviour is managed in a just and fair manner according to individual needs, where a clear set of expectations regarding student behaviour is developed and consistently implemented.
- Parents/guardians/carers are kept informed of their student's behaviour, both positive and negative.

KEY PRINCIPLES

- In normal circumstances, parents or caregivers wishing to leave messages for their children should do so by telephoning the school; school staff will endeavour to ensure that messages are passed on during class breaks.
- School office staff may also assist students who need to contact family or other persons in an emergency.
- At the start of each school day, any student's mobile phone, mobile device or wearable technology must be switched off and deposited for secure storage in their classroom (or as otherwise directed by their teacher) to be returned at the conclusion of the school day.
- Students are not permitted to possess or use a personal mobile phone, mobile device, or wearable technology during school hours while at school or involved in school activity, unless they have been provided with an exemption.

STUDENTS USING MOBILE PHONE, DEVICE AND WEARABLE TECHNOLOGIES WITHOUT AN EXEMPTION

If a student uses their mobile phone, device or wearable technologies contrary to this Protocol without an exemption:

In the first instance:
The student will be asked to take the device to the Administration Office until the end of the school day. The device will be stored securely and entered in the Device Register by the Administration staff.

If a student has a second instance:
The student will be required to leave their device at the Administration Office at the beginning of each day for the remainder of the week. Parents/guardians will be informed of the breach and of this requirement.

If a student has a third instance:
The student will be required to leave their device at the Administration Office until a parent/guardian can attend to collect the device.

If a student continues to breach this Mobile Phone, Device and Wearable Technologies Protocol, the School will follow actions as outlined in the School's Behaviour Protocol and, where appropriate, action will be taken in accordance with Catholic Education Tasmania's ***Response to Unacceptable Student Behaviour Policy****,* the Principal must take steps in accordance with Catholic Education Tasmania's ***Response to Unacceptable Student Behaviour Procedure.***