



St Francis de Sales Catholic Primary School
Bloom where you are planted

Mobile Phone and Smart Watch Policy

Authority	<p>Authorisation: Mr John Rudd, Principal and Members of the School Leadership Team</p> <p>Date of ratification: 2021</p> <p>Date of next review: 2023</p> <p>Policies are reviewed regularly and may be subject to change at the school's discretion.</p>
When does this policy apply?	<p>The St Francis de Sales Mobile Phone and Smart Watch Policy is designed to explain to our school community the School's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones, smart watches and other personal mobile devices during school hours.</p>
Who does this policy apply to?	<p>This policy applies to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1 All students at St Francis de Sales Primary School; and2 Students' personal mobile phones, smart watches and other personal mobile devices brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.
Definition of Mobile Phone and Smart Watch	<p>A mobile phone is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network.</p> <p>For the purpose of this policy, 'mobile phone' refers to mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as smart watches.</p>



St Francis de Sales Catholic Primary School
Bloom where you are planted

Mobile Phone and Smart Watch Policy

St Francis de Sales Catholic Primary School Commitment Statement to Child Safety A safe and nurturing culture for all children and young people at our Catholic school

The moral focus embedded in Catholic school culture, to uphold the dignity of each person and to strive for the full flourishing of each student, obliges Catholic schools to establish and continually improve the culture of child safety throughout all levels of the organisation. Preventing child abuse and responding appropriately to allegations and concerns needs to be embedded in the everyday thinking and practice of all within the school community.

Every person involved in Catholic education has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role he/she plays individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make. Therefore, St Francis de Sales School has in place policies, processes and practices ensuring child safety is key within its culture and that these represent best practice. (Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd 2016/St Francis de Sales School Commitment Statement).

At St Francis de Sales School we are committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our students, staff, and volunteers. As part of this commitment we have implemented the Victorian Child Safe Standards to help protect children and young people under the age of 18 from child abuse and neglect, including cultural safety for Indigenous children and those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and children with a disability.

1 Rationale

This policy outlines the use of mobile phones and smart watches on our school site.

The school discourages students from bringing mobile phones and smart watches to school. These communication devices cause disruption in classrooms and the playground, and can be used inappropriately to access social media and take photos without permission. This can cause distress and breach the privacy of others.

St Francis de Sales Primary School understands that students may need to carry a personal mobile phone to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school.

In the event a Parent and/or Carer needs to contact a student, the Parent and/or Carer should telephone the School Administration Office on 9306 9444 not the Students Mobile Phone Device. If necessary, students can contact parents and/or carers from the School Office telephone.

When emergencies occur, parents and/or carers should reach their child by calling the school office on 9306 9444.



St Francis de Sales Catholic Primary School
Bloom where you are planted

2 Expectations relating to students bringing mobile phones, smart watches and other personal mobile devices to school

At St Francis de Sales Primary School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones, smart watches and other personal mobile devices to school, must have them switched off when entering the school grounds and the devices are then placed into the classroom office case. During school hours, the classroom office case is stored at the School Administration Office.
- At the end of the school day, the classroom office case is returned to each classroom via the Classroom Tub and devices are then handed back to the Student.

3 Exceptions to this policy

Exceptions to this policy may be applied if certain conditions are met and approval is granted by the school Principal.

For a small number of students with particular learning or health and wellbeing needs, an exception to the policy may also be granted. Parents and/or Carers can make an application through the Student Wellbeing Coordinator providing any associated documentation (Student Action Plan) and/or a medical practitioner's report.

4 Non-compliance with this policy

Any use of mobile phones and smart watches by a student, that is in breach of these rules, will lead to the confiscation of the device. In this instance, parents will be notified and confiscated devices will need to be collected from the School Administration Office by the student's parent, guardian or carer at the end of the day.

5 Related school policies and additional resources

- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Child safety policies
- Codes of conduct for students, parents and staff
- Data Breach Policy
- Managing Complaints and Grievances Policy
- Privacy Policy
- Social Media Policy for staff
- Student Behaviour Policy
- [Victorian State Government Education and Training advice for Mobile phones in schools](#)

St Francis de Sales

626 Pascoe Vale Road Oak Park | tel: 03 9306 9444 | principal@sfoakpark.catholic.edu.au

Bloom where you are planted