



ST THERESA'S SCHOOL

STUDENT MOBILE DEVICES IN SCHOOL POLICY

RATIONALE

The Board of Trustees is required to comply with the mandate of the NZ Government that ensures that students have their phones "away for the day".

Note: For the purposes of this policy, 'mobile phones' includes smart watches and associated listening accessories, such as, but not limited to, headphones and ear buds.

PURPOSE

We are committed to protecting the school day as a time for our ākonga to engage with teaching and learning and to communicate with each other face-to-face and be involved in the wider life of our kura.

GUIDELINES

- Cell phones and earbuds/headphones must be turned off and stored in bags for the duration of the school day (from 8.30am until 2.45pm).
- Students are expected to follow our Digital Technology and Online Safety Policy when using personal digital devices on school property on the school network.

Exemptions and Communication

- Exemptions to this ban include where a student requires a mobile phone:
 - to monitor a health condition as part of a school approved documented health care plan; or
 - under the direct instruction of a teacher for educational purposes; or with permission of a teacher for a specified purpose.
- All communication between parents and students, during school hours, will occur via the school's administration.

Breaches of this Policy

- Breaches of this policy will be managed in accordance with the *School Behaviour Management Policy and Procedures*.
- Students who do not comply with this policy will have their mobile phone/device confiscated and held at the administration office. The parent/carer will be informed and requested to collect the mobile phone/device at their earliest convenience.

GUIDELINES

It is important to note that if students do make the decision to bring a cell phone/device to the school grounds, they do so at their own risk. The school is not responsible for any loss or damage caused to any cell phone/device.

If a parent/caregiver needs to contact their child urgently during the day, they should call the office.

Formulated: February 2024

Approved: February 2024

Reviewed / Ratified: Triennially, February 2027