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Mobile Phone Policy for St. Nicholas' Special School

1. Purpose This policy outlines the appropriate use of mobile phones within St. Nicholas Special School, ensuring a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment while recognizing the unique needs of our students and staff. The policy reflects our commitment to safeguarding students and supporting their educational and personal development.

2. Scope This policy applies to all students, staff, parents, and visitors within the school premises and during school-related activities off-site.

3. Objectives

- To minimize distractions during learning activities.
- To protect the privacy and dignity of all members of the school community.
- To ensure mobile phone use supports the safety and wellbeing of students.
- To foster a positive and respectful school environment.

4. Policy Guidelines

4.1 Students

- Mobile phones are not permitted during school hours unless explicitly required for medical, educational, or communication purposes as agreed with school staff.
- If a student requires a mobile phone for any reason (e.g., for safety during travel), it must be switched off and handed to a designated staff member during school hours.
- Mobile phone use for educational purposes must be supervised and pre-approved by Principal.
- Misuse of mobile phones, including unauthorised photography, recording, or accessing inappropriate content, is strictly prohibited.

4.2 Staff

- Staff should limit mobile phone use during instructional time for emergencies or essential educational purposes.
- Staff are encouraged to model appropriate mobile phone use and prioritize student engagement during school hours.
- Staff may use phones to support learning activities or as a communication tool in line with professional responsibilities.
- Unauthorised photography or recording on school premises is strictly prohibited and staff will only use School iPad for authorised photography and recordings.

4.3 Parents and Visitors

- Parents and visitors are requested to keep mobile phones on silent mode and limit use to designated areas or outside the school building.
- Unauthorized photography or recording on school premises is strictly prohibited.

5. Safeguarding and Security

- The school takes no responsibility for the loss, theft, or damage of mobile phones brought onto the premises.
- Students are discouraged from bringing valuable devices to school unless necessary.
- Inappropriate use of mobile phones will result in disciplinary actions, which may include confiscation, parent meetings, or further steps as per the school's Code of Behavior.

6. Implementation and Review

- All stakeholders (students, staff, parents, and visitors) will be informed of this policy.
- This policy will be reviewed annually or as necessary to reflect changes in technology, school requirements, or legal guidelines.

7. Approval and Review

Ratified by: Board of Management, St. Nicholas's School .

Date: 26/03/2025

Signed by Chairperson: _____



Date: 26/03/2025

Mr. Simon Beale.

Review: Annually

Reviewed by March 2026 . Date _____

8. Acknowledgement By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understood the Mobile Phone Policy for St. Nicholas' Special School.

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____