MOBILE TECHNOLOGY POLICY

INTRODUCTION

The increased ownership of mobile technology devices requires that St Joseph’s School administrators, teachers, students and parents take steps to ensure that mobile technology devices are used responsibly.

The school community needs to positively identify and address potential issues (such as mobile phone etiquette) in order to take advantage of the benefits that mobile technology devices can provide.

RATIONALE

MISSION STATEMENT

“St Joseph’s School offers a holistic education within a Catholic Christian ethos whilst developing and valuing the uniqueness of the individual as we encourage each student to become a life long learner.”

The mission statement of St Joseph’s School stresses the Catholic Christian ethos, which recognises both the benefits and implications for potential misuse of new technology. The uniqueness of the individual implies respect for personal safety and family issues in today’s rapidly changing society. The ability to use technology correctly is part of the ongoing learning process for all students.

GOSPEL VALUES

Respect, personal dignity, individual worth, freedom, integrity, trust, justice, understanding, forgiveness, honesty, care, compassion.

DEFINITIONS

A mobile technology device is defined as a hand-held electronic communications device, which can include, but is not limited to a mobile phone, video recorder, camera, voice recorder, mp3 player, iPad and/or Internet access.

POLICY STATEMENT

St Joseph’s School recommends that mobile technology devices NOT be brought to school.

However, St Joseph’s School accepts that parents often give their children mobile phones to protect them from everyday risks involving personal security and safety.
If it is necessary for mobile technology devices to be brought to school, students will be expected to abide by the processes and procedures as established by St Joseph’s School.

**CONSEQUENCES**

St Joseph’s School has processes and procedures outlining the action to be taken should irresponsible use of a mobile phone occur.

Irresponsible use of a mobile technology device can include, but is not limited to the following:
- usage during classes, exams or assessments;
- bullying, harassment, extortion, threats;
- unauthorised photographing or recording;
- offensive messages;
- discrimination;
- internet access;
- breach of Gospel Values of respect and caring.

Mobile technology devices are brought to school at their owner’s risk. St Joseph’s School accepts no responsibility for a lost, stolen or damaged mobile phone.

Craig Frattini
Acting Principal

Peter Sullivan
Board Chairman

Review 2014