



Mobile Phone and Watches Policy



Good Shepherd's Mobile Phone and Smart Watch Policy

When does this policy apply?

Good Shepherd's 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 brought to school from home during school hours.

Who does this policy apply to?

This policy applies to:

- 1 All students at Good Shepherd's Catholic Primary School; and
 - 2 Students' personal mobile phones, smart watches and other personal mobile devices brought onto school premises from home during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.
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Definition of Mobile Phone and Smart Watch

A mobile phone is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network.

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.

Mobile Phone and Smart Watch Policy

Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School Springfield Lakes Statement of Belief for Student Protection and the Child and Youth Risk Management Strategy nurtures culture for all children and young people at our Catholic school states that we are committed to ensuring that our students are safe and protected from harm.

Appropriate and responsive interventions by Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School Springfield Lakes can provide hope to, and foster resilience in students who may be at risk by protecting them from harm and supporting their healing.

An ethical focus is embedded in the Catholic school culture, in order to uphold the dignity of each person who are “*made in the image and likeness of God*” (Genesis 1:26-27). Good Shepherd strives for the success of each student in their learning. As a staff and employees of Brisbane Catholic Education we are obliged as a Catholic school, to establish and continually improve the culture of child safety at all levels. Preventing child abuse and responding appropriately to allegations and concerns, needs to be embedded within the school community. Student Protection is everyone’s concern.

Every person involved as part of Good Shepherd Community 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 decisions made by the community. Therefore, Good Shepherd has in place policies, processes and practices ensuring child safety is key within its culture and that these represent best practice. (Brisbane Catholic Education Office and Good Shepherd)

At Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School, we are committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our students, staff, and volunteers. As part of this commitment, policies and procedures have been implemented according to Brisbane Catholic Education and Queensland Government, in order to protect students and young people under the age of 18 from child abuse and neglect, including Indigenous, culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and students with a disability.

1 Rationale

Good Shepherd’s School policy outlines the use of mobile phones and smart watches on our school site. Good Shepherd discourages students from bringing mobile phones and smart watches to school. These communication devices cause disruption in the Learning Pods 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.

- Good Shepherd 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 3437 5000 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 3437 5000.

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

At Good Shepherd Catholic 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 handed into the Administration Office during school hours which is stored with the student’s name attached to the device.
- At the end of the school day, the student collects the device (phone/watch) from the Administration Office and signs for its release to the student.

2 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 school day.

3 Related school policies and additional resources

- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Child and Youth Risk Child Management Strategy
- Code of Conduct
- ICT Acceptable Use Policy
- Managing Complaints and Grievances Policy
- Privacy Act Policy
- Social Media Policy for Students
- School Student Behaviour Support Plan
- Student, Parent and Guardian Complaints Management
- Student Protection & Professional Standards
- Criminal Act Code

Date	Reviewer	Amendments
18 August 2021	Judith Anne Seery	Created for Good Shepherd

