



School Mobile Phone, Smart Watch and iPad with Sim Card Use at Our Lady of Grace School

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RATIONALE

The Alice Springs (Mparntwe) Education Declaration (the Declaration) (Education Council, 2019) recognises students at the centre of quality education and emphasises the importance of meeting all student needs. Students need to be equipped 'to engage productively in a world of rapidly changing technology' (p.15) and be highly skilled in the appropriate ways to share, use, develop and communicate with ICT. To participate in a knowledge-based economy and to be empowered within a technologically sophisticated society now and into the future, students need the knowledge, skills and confidence to make ICT work for them at school, at home, at work and in their communities.

DEFINITIONS

'*Information and Communication Technology (ICT)*,' means all computer hardware, software, systems, data, digital communications and technology including the internet, email and social media.

'*Smart watches*' refers to any wrist worn device that is capable of sending and/or receiving messages. Including devices that have a 'do not disturb' mode.

'*Sim Card in an iPad*' refers to cellular iPads that are able to access the internet via a sim card. The sim card enables students to bypass our device management system and therefore the iPad is unsupervised while at school and putting the student at risk.

PRINCIPLES

The general principles underpinning this Policy are to:

- Maintain an ethical, safe and supportive working and learning environment.
 - Support employees in making informed decisions about the use of ICT
 - Protect the privacy of employees, students and families.
 - Maintain appropriate accountability to monitor the use of ICT by staff and children.
 - Staff, students and parents are made aware of and support the ICT usage at Our Lady of Grace School.
 - Ensure that ICT in the school is used in a proper and legal manner by all in the community.
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**STUDENT MOBILE PHONE, SMART WATCH AND SIM CARD IN AN IPAD USE POLICY
(K – 6)**

Mobile phones and smart watches are important modern day communication tools with numerous benefits but also pose some risk to child safety. Mobile phones and smart watches must be managed safely in the school environment to ensure the privacy and safety of students and staff.

Students at Our Lady of Grace School understand that the use of Mobile Phones, Smart Watches and iPads with sim cards is prohibited while on school grounds.

Unacceptable use shall include but is not limited to:

- Use of mobile phones
- Use of smart watches that send and receive messages
- Use of a sim card in an iPad
- Use of communication devices to call home in the event of a mishap at school or belongings have been forgotten.

During school hours, any communication between parents and students should be through the front office. It is important that all communication between students and anyone outside of the school, during school hours, is managed and made with full knowledge of the school staff. Students should feel safe to communicate with school staff, teachers and Administration staff.

If a parent/guardian feels it is necessary for their child to bring a communication device (mobile phone or smart watch) for use while travelling to and from school, the following rules for use apply:

- The Parent/Guardians need to fill out a ‘Request for Student Device to be Brought to School’ form.
- The device is to be handed to the teacher before school and collected at the end of the day.
- The device is not to be used for communication purposes on school grounds.
- The school does not accept responsibility for any lost or damaged devices.

Any use of mobile phone, smart watch or sim card in an iPad by a student that is in breach of these rules will lead to the confiscation of the device and parents notified.

I accept and understand my responsibility in abiding by this policy.

Student & Parent Signature: _____

Staff Member: _____

Date: _____



**Our Lady of Grace
Permission Request for Student Device to be Brought to
School**

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Reason for having the device at school:

_____ (child's name) has agreed to hand the device/wear the device in school mode only to be used as a timepiece only during school hours to the teacher each morning and not use the device while on school grounds.

Parent/Guardians signature: _____

Students signature: _____

Date: _____