MOBILE PHONES POLICY

Our Lady of Lourdes School strongly encourages parents NOT to allow their children to bring mobile phones to school. In a Primary School setting, the argument that a mobile phone enhances a student’s safety in case of an emergency creates a false sense of security. A child’s safety is enhanced through reliable drop off and pick up arrangements that are known to the child, parents and the school. Should those arrangements need to change due to unforeseen circumstances it is essential that the school as the responsible adults be informed rather than contacting the child through a mobile phone.

The school therefore undertakes to communicate important messages to children from their parents and when it is appropriate allow the child to contact their parents through the school office phones.

Should parents make the decision to allow their child to bring a mobile phone to school it is to be under the following conditions:

- The mobile phone will be switched off from the time the student enters the school grounds in the morning until the time the student leaves the school grounds at the end of the school day. It is not to be turned on during class time nor is it to be turned on during breaks.
- The phone is to be left in the child’s school bag.
- The school will not be responsible for loss or damage to a mobile phone that is brought to school.
- Students will not be allowed to use the mobile phone to take photos at school.
- Students will not be allowed to use the mobile phone to access the internet or any social media apps while at school.
- Students who use their mobile phones in a manner that is contrary to the school policy will surrender their mobile phone to the school office where it will be collected by their parent.
- This policy will also apply to out of school excursions and camps.

Approved by School Board October 2016