Rationale:
• Mobile phones are important modern day communication tools, essential in providing a safe and effective school environment. However, they can easily be improperly used, lost or damaged and must therefore be effectively managed.

Aim:
• To utilise the benefits of mobile phones whilst managing the problems they can potentially cause.

Implementation:
• The school will purchase and maintain enough mobile telephones and service contracts to satisfy its needs.
• Teachers in charge of all excursions and trips involving students must ensure the school’s mobile phones or similar appropriate communications devices accompany each trip.
• Staff using mobile phones are required to sign for them in the Borrowing Register.
• Staff returning mobile phones are responsible for ensuring that they are recharged.
• Mobile phones are not to be used for private calls, with the exception that staff are permitted to contact families or loved ones during overnight excursions or if an excursion is returning late.
• Students are not to use the school’s mobile phones without permission directly from the Teacher in Charge.
• Staff will be kept informed of Department of Education and Training information relating to health effects of using mobile phones.
• Students are not to bring personal mobile phones to school unless permission from the Principal has been specifically & successfully sought by parents who have outlined the health, safety or personal reasons that justify the student being in possession of a mobile phone.
• If consent has been granted for a student to bring a mobile phone to school, the mobile phone must be taken to the office before school starts and may be collected at the end of the day.
• The school does not accept responsibility for lost or damaged student mobile phones.
• Mobile phones and students using them must not cause disruptions to classes or individuals, and must not cause a nuisance to the smooth running of the school, including bus travel to and from school.
• The principal may revoke a student’s privilege of bringing or using mobile phones whilst at school.
• Students found with a mobile phone at school will have the phone confiscated in the first instance. Parents will be contacted and asked to collect the phone for a second offence. A further offence may lead to suspension.
• **Excursions:** Mobile phones are not permitted to be taken on excursions without permission from the Principal.

Evaluation:

This policy was last ratified by School Council in.... October 2008