

St Philomena's Catholic School

YONDR Phone Policy

Our School's Approach.

St Philomena's Catholic School strives to promote a positive culture for learning and individual student wellbeing. St Philomena believes that by reducing the use of mobile phones throughout school times, there will be a notable improvement in academic performance, student behaviour, and student engagement.

St Philomena's digital device strategy provides all students appropriate access on their 1-1 assigned device.

St Philomena's Catholic School will be introducing the use of the YONDR phone pouch system. All students enrolled in our Secondary school will be allocated a YONDR pouch free of charge. Students enrolling throughout the year will be assigned a pouch as part of their enrolment. If this is damaged or lost, a replacement cost of \$10 will be billed to parents/carers.

Student Expectations

Once allocated a pouch, students will be expected to have their phone turned off and then secured in their pouch for the duration of the school day.

Students are permitted to have headphones, air pods or earbuds that connect via Bluetooth to their school assigned device.

Once students enter school grounds, they are expected to:

1. Unlock their pouch using the unlocking stations
2. Turn the phone off
3. Place their phone in the pouch
4. Lock the pouch for the duration of the day
5. Unlock pouches at one of the unlocking stations at the end of the day as the student leaves

A bell will sound at 8.50 am to remind students who may not have their phone in the pouch before moving to their Pastoral Academic Care (PAC) Class. The Pastoral Academic Care Leader will check that students have their phones locked in the YONDR pouch at the beginning of the PAC class.

Students will not have access to their phones during break times. This decision by the school is supported by the Diocesan.



When a Phone is Sighted by Staff

Staff are to refer to the YONDR Pouch Procedure flowchart when managing a student who does not have their phone in their pouch. If a student attends their Pastoral Academic Care class and has not locked their phone in their pouch the Leader of Learning will instruct them to do so.

If a student has their phone sighted after roll call, they have not followed initial steps as per student expectations. In this instance, staff are to:

1. Refer immediately to the YONDR Pouch Procedure flowchart. The teacher must ask the student to attend the office and Yondr their mobile phone.
2. LoL encourages students to reflect on their own behaviour, evaluate it against expected school behaviour, and plan how their behaviour could be modified so as to align with the expectations of our school community.
3. If the student refuses, the teacher will refer this to the Assistant Principal to further manage student behaviour.
4. Students who do not comply with the YONDR Phone policy will receive a warning; the phone will be placed in their YONDR pouch and handed into the office for collection at the conclusion of the day.
5. Students who do not comply on multiple occasions will be issued a formal warning and parents/carers will be contacted to collaborate with managing the behaviour of the student.

If a student has their phone in the pouch and it buzzes or rings, they will be required to take it to the front office, where they can unlock the Yondr pouch and turn off their phone before returning the phone back into the pouch to be lock and kept at the office.

Students who repeatedly bring an un-pouched phone regardless of their willingness to hand the device over will be required to hand their phones in daily and contact with the student's parent/s or guardian will be made.

Confiscated Phones

If a phone is sent to the front office parents/carers will be contacted to discuss the incident and who the phone is to be released to. Parents can elect to come in and collect the device or have it returned to their child. Phones will not be released to the students before 3.10 pm unless the student has permission to sign out before 3.10 pm. Where contact cannot be made with the parent or guardian the phone will be released to the student no earlier than 3.10 pm.

Damaged or Lost Pouches

Students who have lost or damaged their pouch are not to bring their phone to school until they have organised a replacement pouch. If the students' phone is seen by a staff member they will follow the procedure outlined above. Students are required to pay a fee of \$10 for the replacement of the damaged or lost pouch.

Students who have damaged or lost pouches can hand the phone to the front office each morning where it will be kept as outlined above.



Contact Between Students and Parents/Carers During the School Day

Should a student need to make a call during the school day, they must:

- approach the administration office and ask for permission to use the school's phone. Administration staff will first seek approval from AP or the Principal.
- During school hours, parents needing to contact or collect their teenager are to contact the Administration Office.

Responsibilities and obligations

For students

- Be safe, responsible and respectful users of digital devices and online services.
- Respect and follow school rules and policies and the decisions made by staff.
- Communicate respectfully and collaboratively with all members of the school community and adhere to the school Living Well, Learning Well Strategy.

For parents and carers

- Recognise their role in educating their children by modelling behaviours that encourage safe, responsible and respectful use of digital devices and online services.
- Support implementation of the school procedure, including the approach to resolving issues.
- Take responsibility for their teenager's use of digital devices and online services at home.
- Communicate with the school respectfully.
- Switch off or put their digital devices on silent when at official school functions and during meetings.

For the principal and leaders of learning

- Deliver learning experiences that encourage safe, responsible and respectful use of digital devices and online services. This includes:
- Establishing agreed on classroom expectations for using digital devices and online services.
- Educating students about online privacy, intellectual property, copyright, digital literacy and other online safety-related issues.
- Model appropriate use of digital devices and online services.
- Respond to and report any breaches and incidents of inappropriate use of digital devices and online services as required by school procedures, Diocesan policy and any statutory and regulatory requirements.
- If feasible and particularly as issues emerge, support parents and carers to understand strategies that promote their teenager's safe and respectful use of online services.
- Participate in professional development for appropriate use of technology and online services.

