



## **MOBILE TELEPHONES AT SCHOOL**

### **Introduction:**

Schools need to develop policies with consideration of new forms of technology which make some of our existing methods ineffective when addressing issues of protection and security for children and adults at school.

Although mobile telephones are getting smaller in size, their functions have increased, and currently include SMS or text messaging, image capture and image messaging, computer connection, internet connection, printer connection, and others.

Consequently, anyone, at any time and in any circumstances, can be photographed, videoed or recorded without their knowledge or permission. Technology also enables computer and mobile telephone images to be altered and enhanced.

Digital/electronic invasion of privacy, harassment and bullying are real risks, given the capabilities and small size of mobile telephones.

### **Students and Mobile Phones**

**Students at East Waikiki PS are discouraged from bringing mobile phones to school.**

We accept that there may be extraordinary instances where parents require students to have mobile phones on the way to and home from school.

In these cases their use is restricted to **before** or **after school** only!

For security and privacy reasons, students do not have access to mobile phones during the school day.

Consequently, students who bring mobile phones to school are required to:

1. Bring a parent permission letter to the class teacher explaining the reasons why.
2. Turn the phone off as you walk into the school grounds and give it to the class teacher at the start of the day. Teachers will lock students' mobile phones away until the end of day when they will be returned to students. Students may turn the phones on again when they leave school grounds.

**The school strictly does not accept responsibility for the loss or theft of the phone.**

**If a student fails to hand in the phone, by keeping it on their person or concealing it in their desk or bag, and it becomes lost, stolen or damaged the school once again will not accept any responsibility for investigating the incident or recovering the phone.**

## **GENERAL POLICY:**

1. Students may not use mobile telephones at school.
2. Staff may not use personal mobile telephones during the school day without the authorisation of the Principal.
3. Registered Contractors, volunteers and other visitors to the school site may use mobile telephones at school to transmit their own voice messages or to send and receive text messages.
4. The use of mobile telephones for image capture and image messaging is not permitted on the school site.
5. Mobile telephones at school must be kept secure.
6. Mobile telephones at school must be PIN-keypad-locked.
7. The school takes no responsibility for the loss, theft or damage to mobile telephones at school.
8. The authorisation of the Principal is required for any variations to these directions.
9. This policy shall be reviewed as required.

### **REGISTERED SCHOOL CONTRACTORS AND VISITORS**

#### **POLICY FOR MOBILE TELEPHONE USE WHILE ON THE SCHOOL SITE.**

Given the small size of mobile telephones and their capabilities for image capture and image messaging, contractors and other registered or authorised school visitors are directed by the Principal that:

- Mobile telephones must be kept secure;
- Mobile telephones may only be used for transmission of your own voice, or for text messaging;
- Mobile telephones are not permitted to be used for image capture or image messaging on the school site.

**The specific authorisation of the Principal is required for any variation of these conditions for entry to the school site.**