1 Purpose

Streaky Bay Area School has established the following Acceptable Use Policy for mobile phones and other means of mobile electronic communication (referred to as mobile phones in this document) that provides teachers, students and their parents/caregivers guidelines and instructions for the appropriate use of mobile phones during school hours.

2. Rationale

2.1 Personal safety and security
Streaky Bay Area School accepts that parents give their children mobile phones as a form of protection or when travelling arrangements may need to be made after school.

2.2 Responsibility
It is the responsibility of students who bring mobile phones onto school grounds to adhere to the guidelines outlined in this document.

2.3 Acceptable Uses
Parents/caregivers are reminded that the Front Office at the school remains the vital and appropriate point of contact. This will ensure your child is reached quickly, and assisted in any appropriate way.

2.4 Unacceptable Uses
Mobile phones are to be switched off during school hours and stored out of sight. There will be no exceptions to this part of the policy, unless used for curriculum purposes under direct supervision of the class teacher.

Should there be disruptions to lessons caused by a mobile phone, the responsible student will face disciplinary actions in accordance with the school’s Student Behaviour Management procedures.

2.5 Theft or damage
Students are required to mark their mobile phone clearly with their name.
Students who bring a mobile phone onto school premises should ensure they have a means of storing them securely in bags/lockers as soon as they arrive. In order to reduce the risk of theft during school hours, students who carry mobile phones are advised to keep them well concealed and not ‘advertise’ they have them.

The school accepts no responsibility for replacing mobile phones that are lost, stolen or damaged whilst on school premises or at school sponsored functions. Neither does the school accept responsibility for students who lose or have their mobile phones stolen while travelling to and from school.

It is strongly advised that students use passwords/pin numbers to ensure that unauthorised phone calls cannot be made on their phones.
2.6 Inappropriate conduct

a) Any student caught using a mobile phone to cheat in exams or assessments will face disciplinary action as sanctioned by the Student Behaviour Management procedures.

b) Any student who uses vulgar, derogatory or obscene language while using a mobile phone will face disciplinary actions as sanctioned by the Student Behaviour Management procedures.

c) It should be noted it is a criminal offence to use a mobile phone to menace, harass or offend another person. In such incidences, it may be considered appropriate by the school to involve the police. Hence, students with mobile phones must not engage in personal attacks, harass another person, or post private information about another person using SMS messages, taking/sending photos or objectionable images, and phone calls.

d) Students using mobile phones to bully other students will face disciplinary actions as sanctioned by the Student Behaviour Management procedures.

2.7 Sanctions

Students infringing these rules will have their mobile phone confiscated. It will be taken to a secure place within the school, usually the front office, and returned to the student at the end of the day. Parents/caregivers of the students will be informed.

Any repeat infringements may result in forfeiture of the privilege of the student to bring a phone to school.

Infringement under section 2.6(c) may result in the matter being referred to the police. In such a case, the parents will be informed as a matter of urgency.

Passed by Governing Council 10/11/08