



SOPHIA
MUNDI

Steiner Education and IB World School

Online Communications, Mobile Phone, Interactive & Digital Technologies Policy

Table of Contents

1. Policy Scope	3
2. Policy Objectives	3
3. Policy Statement	3
4. Policy Requirements.....	3
5. Policies and Procedures to be read in conjunction with this policy	4

1. Policy scope

This policy applies to the Principal, teachers and supervisors of students accessing mobile phones, digital technologies online services from any of the school's locations including, but not limited to, the school.

The policy also applies to students during School excursions, camps and extra-curricular activities.

2. Policy objectives

Online communication, mobile phone, interactive & digital technologies and services provided to students at Sophia Mundi Steiner School will only be used for learning related activities and require informed parental consent and appropriate management.

This policy focuses on the conditions for use of Mobile phones, digital technologies and online services at school, as well as the Rights and Responsibilities of students in regard to the use of digital technology. It covers:

- Mobile phones and smart devices
- Student laptops
- Breaches of expectations
- Student acceptable uses

This policy is designed by Sophia Mundi Steiner School to ensure that potential issues involving mobile phones, digital technologies and online services can be clearly identified and addressed.

It provides teachers, students and parents with guidelines and instructions for the appropriate use of mobile phones at Sophia Mundi Steiner School.

Students, their parents or guardians must read and understand the school's policy and procedures before students are permitted to use digital technologies and online services at Sophia Mundi Steiner School.

3. Policy Statement

This policy is based on the principles of mutual responsibility and respect of all parties involved in the use of online digital technologies and mobile phones. It requires accountability on the part of the user for his or her actions. It is designed to assist in managing the safe and responsible use of mobile phones, digital technologies and online services by students and involves parents as partners in assisting their children in the proper use of these technologies.

It also intends to promote meaningful connections and a sense of belonging for members of our school community that are best achieved when the full richness of face-to-face interactions can occur, rather than via digital devices. There is a clear link between school connectedness, belonging, academic outcomes and psychological wellbeing.

This policy aims to make clear that the privilege to access and use digital technologies and online services at School may be withdrawn if a student fails in his or her duty to behave responsibly and in accordance with the School's requirements.

4. Policy requirements

Sophia Mundi employees, students, visitors, volunteers and contractors are required to act in accordance with relevant legislation:

- *Education and Training and Reform Act 2006 (Vic)*
- *Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Vic)*
- *Education and Training Reform Regulations 2007*
- *Education and Training Regulations 2017*
- *Australian Education Amendment Act 2017*

- *Equal Opportunity Act 1995*

Child Safe Standards legislation

- a. Child Wellbeing and Safety Act (Vic)
 - b. Ministerial Order 870 January 2016 (Vic)
 - c. Crimes Act 1958 (amended) (Vic)
 - d. Betrayal of Trust Report 2014 (Vic)
 - e. Working With Children Act 2005 (Vic)
 - f. Wrongs Amendment (Organisational Child Abuse) Act 2017 (Vic).
 - g. Disability Discrimination Act 1992
 - h. Disability Standards for Education 2005
- *Privacy Act 1988 (Cth.)*
 - *Privacy Amendment (Enhancing Privacy Protection) Act 2012 (Cth.)*

5. Sophia Mundi Policies and procedures to be read in conjunction with this policy

- Student Engagement and Wellbeing – Policy and procedures ^[1]_{SEP}
- Equal opportunity, Anti-Bullying and Anti-harassment - Policy and procedures ^[1]_{SEP}
- SM Positive Learning Strategy – Policy and procedures
- SM Duty of Care - Policy and procedures