

St Joseph's School Smart Watches and Personal Smart Devices Policy

Date: February 2026

Review: February 2028

Purpose

To support a focused learning environment while recognising that some students wear smart watches or carry personal smart devices for timekeeping, health tracking, or safety purposes.

Scope

This policy applies to all students who wear or bring smart watches or personal smart devices onto school grounds during the school day.

Expectations

- Smart watches and personal smart devices **must be set by parents/carers** so that **all communication features are de-activated during school hours**.
- This includes (but is not limited to): messaging, phone calls, internet access, social media access, games, and camera use.
- Devices are to be used **only as a watch** while at school.

Acceptable Use

Students may:

- Use the device to tell the time
- Use approved health or fitness tracking features that do not require communication access

Unacceptable Use

Students must not:

- Send or receive messages
- Make or receive phone calls
- Access the internet, social media, or games
- Use the device as a camera or recording tool
- Use any feature that distracts from learning

Consequences

- If a student is found using their device for any communication, gaming, or non-approved purpose during the school day, the device will be **confiscated**.
- Confiscated devices will be returned in line with the school's standard confiscation procedures (e.g., collected by a parent/carer).

Parent/Carer Responsibility

Parents/carers are responsible for:

- Ensuring the device is set to "school mode" or equivalent settings before the student arrives at school
- Monitoring and managing the device settings at home

School Discretion

The school reserves the right to:

- Request that a student does not wear a smart watch or bring a smart device if misuse continues
- Apply further consequences in line with the Safe Schools Policy.