

MOBILE PHONES and ELECTRONIC DEVICES POLICY

NOTE: This policy does not include school laptops

Rationale

Mobile phones and electronic devices are a part of modern society and the College accepts that many students will possess these items. There are times when it may be genuinely appropriate and useful for students to have access to them. However, ever-changing technology presents a number of challenges to the school environment. These include:

- Mobile phones or electronic devices interrupting lessons and disturbing the learning of others.
- Loss and theft of mobile phones or electronic devices.
- Mobile phones being used inappropriately in exams and assessment tasks.
- Mobile phones or electronic devices being used inappropriately on excursions and other school related events.
- Issues of social status, peer pressure, socialisation and harassment.

Principles and Procedures

The College has in place appropriate methods, through Reception and Student Services, for parents to contact students and vice versa. It is preferred that students do not have mobile phones or electronic devices at the College. When students do bring them, the following policy applies:

- The College accepts no responsibility for mobile phones or electronic devices that are brought to school. It is the responsibility of the student to safeguard against misplacement, loss or theft.
- Mobile phones and electronic devices may not be used on the school grounds at any time.
- Mobile phones must be switched off and out of sight at all other times including in class, in private study, sport, recess and lunchtime, in exams and at assemblies. Silent or discreet settings are not acceptable. Mobile telephones and electronic devices must be kept in the student's locker on the Duncan Street Campus and switched off and out of sight on the Balmoral Street Campus.
- Mobile phones or electronic devices used for any purpose between arrival at school and the bell at the end of the day, will be confiscated for the rest of that day and collected at Student Services after Form in the afternoon or prior to leaving the College on the day of confiscation.
- The confiscation of the phone or electronic device will be noted on the student's record in Student Services and the Cluster Leader will send an ABC home.
- A second offence, within the same calendar year, will result in the above procedure being repeated.
- A third offence, within the same calendar year, will result in an after-school detention as per the Discipline Strategy.
- Mobile phones are not to be used for their calculator function during class or exams.
- Use of mobile phones or electronic devices during off-campus activities arranged by the College, including field trips, camps and retreats will not be permitted. Arrangements are in place for communication with a staff member in the case of an emergency.
- Staff will have mobile phones switched off in class and at other times that could disrupt the daily activities of the College.