

# Electronic Devices Policy



The State Government announced a new Student Mobile Phones in Public Schools policy to take effect from the start of Term 1, 2020.

The policy requires all public schools to implement a ban on the use of mobile phones for all students from the time they arrive at school to the end of the school day. This extends to the use of smartwatches which need to be on airplane mode during this period.

This policy document refers to the use of personal electronic devices such as (but not restricted to) Mobile Phones, iPods, iPads, Smart Watches, Laptop Computers, Game Consoles, DVD Players and accessories (e.g. earphones) on the school site.

It is not necessary, nor acceptable, for mobile phones to be switched on or used during school lessons unless it is for educational purposes. They can be a distraction to students, a disruption to classes and they also pose a security problem.

## Policy

*This policy seeks to place reasonable restrictions on the use of these items in a school setting as follows:*

- Any student, who is feeling unwell at school and needs to go home, must arrange this through Student Services. Under no circumstances may students use mobiles to contact home and make arrangements to leave.
- Electronic devices brought to and kept at school is entirely at their owner's risk. **The school cannot accept any responsibility for theft, loss, damage or health effects (potential or actual) resulting from mobile phone use.** Students and parents should recognise however, that mobile phones are highly prized targets for theft and accordingly, phones should always be stored in a safe and secure place. Parents and students should ensure that mobile phones are properly and adequately insured as personal property.
- All personal electronic devices, other than POLP devices when needed in class, must be switched off and stored away securely during class time. Mobile phone **MUST** be away during classes – unless for educational purposes.
- Headphones/Earphones are not to be used or to be visible during class time. Listening to music is not permitted during class time.
- Personal electronic devices must be switched off and out of sight at all assemblies.
- Electronic devices are not to be brought into examinations.
- Under **NO** circumstances are students permitted to download and/or display inappropriate material including pornographic images; send harassing or threatening text messages (SMS) or multimedia messaging (MMS) messages or use a mobile phone to cheat during assessments. Not following these instructions may result in criminal charges being laid.
- Electronic devices are not to be used to record, distribute, display or upload images or videos of students, staff or parents **on school premises at any time.** Not following these instructions may result in criminal charges being laid.
- Electronic devices are not to be used for the purposes of bullying other students or disrupting school operations.
- When using the school's wireless network, students must ensure that internet and online communication services are used solely for the purpose of genuine curriculum and educational activities.
- Use of **unauthorised programs** such as social networking websites (but not limited to) Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, etc., playing games and intentionally downloading unauthorised software, graphics or music that is not associated with learning, is not permitted.

- Staff will undertake not to use their mobile phones in class unless it is a requirement of the lesson or an emergency.
- The management of devices in the classroom setting is primarily considered to be a classroom management issue and failure to comply with the College BMIS Policy is regarded in the same way as any other breach of classroom behaviour standards.

### Consequences for inappropriate use of mobile phones.

The diagram below outlines the process for students to have mobile phones on in class. **This can also be extended to other electronic devices:**

