

Rationale

In the age of technology we place a heavy reliance on mobile phones and electronic devices in our day to day lives. However, use of these are not appropriate during school time as they distract from learning, pose a risk to safety and have a chance of being damaged or stolen.

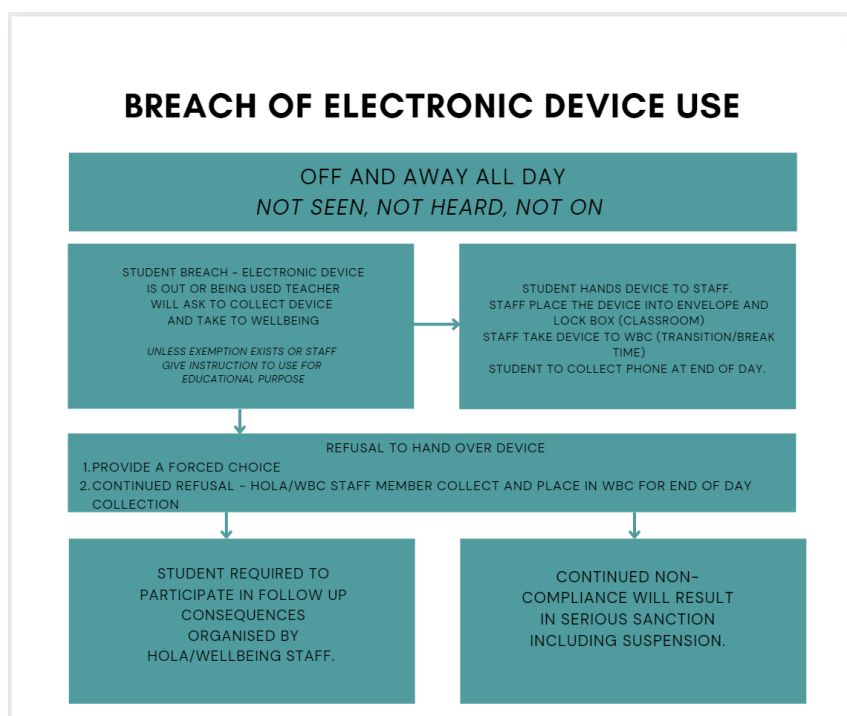
Term 1, 2020 the State Government announced a new [Student Mobile Phones in Public Schools Policy](#) of “off and away all day”. This policy clearly outlines that secondary students may choose to have a mobile phone or electronic device in their possession however, it must not be seen, heard or on during the school day.

Aims

- Develop and practice face to face interpersonal skills with a range of different people in a variety of contexts
- Protect students from cyber bullying
- Reduce distraction from academic learning
- Protect privacy and maintain confidentiality of all members of the school community

Implementation

- Students that breach the policy by using mobile phones/electronic devices and their accessories will be required to hand the device to the classroom teacher for the remainder of the lesson.
- Refusal of this will result in referral of behaviour to Head of Department and the phone will be confiscated for the remainder of the day and can be collected from the Wellbeing Centre.
- Students who record (video/photograph), upload to social media or distribute images of students fighting or acts of violence, will be immediately suspended for a period of time consistent with *Regulation 43 of the School Education Regulations 2000*.
- Southern River College does not take responsibility for any lost or damaged devices – students bring these at their own risk.
- All communication between students and parents will occur through the Front office or Wellbeing Centre.



Exemptions

- Students that require the use of Mobile phone for their Health Care plan will be provided with a 'mobile access' card and the information will be placed onto the student SEQTA and circulated to all staff.
- Exemptions will be reviewed on an individual basis and required the consent of the Principal or delegate of the Principal before being approved.

Evaluation

- Policy will be reviewed December 2024