



## MOBILE PHONES INTENT

All classes must function in a manner where students and teachers are engaged in teaching and learning without unnecessary distraction. It is also the right of every student to be free of bullying and harassment through text messaging and the use of a mobile phone.

## SUMMARY

The use of mobile phones is permitted in **senior classes only** as a learning tool and at teacher discretion. During and between all other classes, such devices must be turned off and kept out of sight, but they may be used outside these times. Failure to follow teacher instruction on the basis of appropriate use will be considered level 1 behaviour and the mobile will be confiscated.

In the **Junior School** students are not permitted to bring or use mobile phones. Any student found using a mobile phone will have it confiscated. If a mobile is confiscated for a third time the student's parent/guardian will be contacted to collect the mobile from the school. If a student has to access their phone before/ after school it must be switched off and stored securely throughout the day.

If parents believe it essential for a student to have access to a mobile phone, it may be left in the Student Hub on arrival and collected prior to departure to avoid the risk of theft or damage. In emergencies, parents can always contact the office to relay information to students.

## POLICY

The school strongly discourages students bringing mobile phones to school and accepts NO responsibility in the event of the loss, theft or damage of any device.

However, if these mobile phones are brought to school despite this advice, the following applies:

- Junior School students are not permitted to bring or use mobile phones or ear phones.
- It is important that students display courtesy, consideration and respect for others whenever they are using a mobile phone.
- Mobile phones should not be used where disruption will result.
- Mobile phones must be switched off (not on silent/vibrate mode) and out of sight during and between classes. They are to be used only before or after school, during recess and lunch breaks for seniors only.
- Mobile phones are not to be taken inside toilets and change rooms.
- Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken against any student who photographs or films other individuals without their consent, or who sends harassing or threatening text messages.
- Students who use video imagery to motivate or incite violence at school will be treated in a similar manner to those who commit the violent act.
- Students are responsible for the safe keeping of their electronic devices.
- The use of mobile phones is not permitted during in-school assessment. This may result in the assessment being cancelled.
- Students who use digital media either at school or after hours in a negative way which affects the school's good order, management or reputation will face disciplinary action.
- Devices potentially containing evidence of criminal offences may be reported to the police. In such cases police may take possession of such devices for investigation purposes and students and parents will be advised to contact Queensland Police Service directly.
- The use of any form of media or digital device to photograph, record, intimidate or harass any member of staff will most likely lead to exclusion from school.

## PROCEDURES

Mobile phones used inappropriately at any time will be confiscated and stored in the Student Hub safe for the remainder of the day. They may be retrieved from the Student Hub after 3.00 pm. Repeat offenders may lose the right to bring mobile phones to school as it is considered that they are deliberately disobeying school rules.