

MOBILE COMMUNICATION AND SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

There is an expectation that students are responsible and respectful in the appropriate use of Mobile Communication devices, and all students must ensure the safety of others is not placed at risk. This includes any actions that are, or could be interpreted as, bullying and harassment.

Use of Mobile Communication and Social Media

Mobile Communication devices can promote productive and positive learning; however, such devices must be used correctly and appropriately at all times, so that learning is not interrupted.

Social media may only be used during recess and lunch breaks and must be switched off during lessons. Communication devices are not to be used in any class or study periods unless for specific class work, with the explicit permission of a teacher.

Usage of Social Media that interferes with, or disrupts others, is unacceptable, and includes, but is not limited to:

- Distribution of offensive material
- Propagation of any form of malicious software (virus, etc.)
- Behaviour/material that contradicts the school's Culture of Respect policy
- Material obtained without a person's consent
- Material of any type used without a person's consent
- Defamatory and / or slanderous comments
- Bullying and Harassment of another person
- Offensive language towards a community member and /or the school

Student responsibilities

1. Communication devices, such as mobile phones, must be turned off during all lesson times, assemblies and other school functions. Students may use devices in class if the teacher has given permission for educational purposes only.
2. Students are not to make or receive phone calls, messages or access other social media during lesson times.
3. Students are not permitted to access social networking sites during lesson time.
4. When students are sick they must report to Student Wellbeing Centre who will then make contact with a parent/caregiver. Support staff will administer first aid and/or contact parents/caregivers. In order to fulfil our duty of care and to ensure that students get appropriate treatment until a parent arrives, it is essential that all contact of this nature be adult-to-adult.
5. Bullying or harassment of any kind is not tolerated. This includes electronic harassment, such as sending harassing text messages and posting comments on social networking sites.
6. Photos and/or videos are not to be taken of other students or staff members without their permission.
7. Students who choose to bring mobile communication devices to school must accept responsibility for their care. As with any other personal items, the school cannot take any responsibility for devices that are lost, damaged or stolen.