

MOBILE PHONE PROTOCOL

RATIONALE

MacKillop Catholic College takes the safe and responsible use of digital technologies, student safety and wellbeing, and the development of social skills and positive behaviour very seriously. Whilst we acknowledge that we live in a technology-rich world where mobile phones are an important communication tool, research has found that mobile phones can be disruptive and are open to misuse at school. The unregulated presence of mobile phones can undermine students' capacity to think, learn, remember, pay attention, and regulate emotion.

MOBILE PHONE PROTOCOL

All students with mobile phones are to switch off their phone and lock it securely in their school locker before Pastoral Care Group (PCG). Students can check their mobile phones once at the start of Recess and once at the start of Lunch when returning learning materials to their lockers. Mobile phones are not to be accessed apart from those times until 3.10 p.m. unless permission has been given by a teacher.

- Mobile phones are brought to and kept at school entirely at their owner's risk.
- Students with mobile phones may be given permission by the Subject Teacher to utilise mobile phones in certain circumstances. At the discretion of the teacher, students may be directed to bring their mobile phones to certain classes or off-campus supervised activities.
- Any student who is feeling unwell at school and needs to go home must arrange this through their House Leader/Director of Pastoral Care/Deputy Principal - Pastoral Care and present themselves to College Reception so that parents/guardians/carers can be contacted.
- Any student who needs to be in contact with parents/guardians/carers on urgent matters during the day should report to College Reception. Our College Reception staff will support those students to make contact via a College Reception phone.
- Parents/guardians/carers who need to contact students or get messages to students during school hours should contact College Reception.
- Students who have smart watches must have them on "Airplane" mode.

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NOT MEETING EXPECTATIONS - MOBILE PHONE PROTOCOL

First occasion

Reminder given to the student. Parent/guardians/carers notified via SEQTA.

Second occasion

The mobile phone will be stored at College Reception for collection at the end of the school day.

Parents/guardians/carers notified via SEQTA

Subsequent occasions

The mobile phone will be stored at College Reception before 8.30am, to be collected by the student after 3.10 p.m., every day for a full week*

*Discretion may be applied in exceptional circumstances. Families who require their child to carry mobile phones with them at all times (i.e., for health reasons) will have this authorised through the Deputy Principal - Pastoral Care.