



Mobile Phone Usage 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 Tutor. 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 3.10pm, unless permission has been given by a teacher.

General Information in relation to the Mobile Phone Protocol

- 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 Year Level Co-ordinator/Director of Student Wellbeing and present themselves to the College Office so that parents/guardians can be contacted by office staff.
- Students who need to call their parents/guardians during the day on urgent matters must report to the College Office. Office staff will support those students to make contact using the College Office phone. Parents/guardians needing to contact students during school hours should call the College Office.
- Students who have smart watches must have them on "Airplane" mode. (The use of smart watches is the same as for mobile phones.)

Breaches of this protocol

- For a first breach there will be a rule reminder (SEQTA Note). Parents will receive this notification.
- A second breach will result in the storing of the mobile phone at the College Office for collection at the end of the school day (SEQTA Note). Parents will receive this notification.
- Subsequent breaches of the protocol will result in the student being required to leave the mobile phone at the College office before 8.30am, to be collected by the student after 3.10pm, every day for a full week*.

**discretion may be applied in exceptional circumstances*

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