



Mobile Phone Policy

Rationale

The use of mobile phones and other student-owned personal technology devices i.e. iPods, iPads and the like, are not permitted while on school grounds, or attending off-campus school events, with the exception of a clearly marked Tap-n-Go Zone in the school canteen area. Students are allowed to access phones ONLY in the marked zone to pay for the canteen purchases. NO other use of phones is allowed in the zoned area.

Mobile phones and personal technology devices are not necessary for learning and provide a distraction for students and teachers, and are proven to prevent learning in many situations. Elanora SHS is a BYOD school; laptops are the identified technology device for use.

Expectations

Mobile phones must be switched off and never visible at any time, on school grounds, or whilst attending school events, including before and after school, during class times and at breaks.**

If a device (including headphones) is sighted or heard, the student will be required to hand it in to the Wellbeing Hub where it will be stored securely until 3:05pm. Upon submission of the device, the student will also receive an internal suspension for the remainder of the day as a consequence for breaching this policy.

For a second offence, a student's family will be required to collect the device from the Office, at a mutually convenient time, an after school detention will be applied and the student will be placed on a monitoring booklet.

A third offence will result in referral to the Dean for a Discipline Improvement Plan.

A refusal to submit a phone to the Wellbeing Hub will result in an internal or external school suspension.

Parents/Guardians wishing to urgently contact their students, or vice versa, are required to do so through the school office on 5568 4333. Students will have access to the Check and Respond Centre for a maximum of five minutes at breaks, where they can be supervised to check or send non-urgent messages.

Students who choose to bring mobile phones or personal technology devices to school, do so at their own risk and are responsible for ensuring their safety and security and that they are not visible or audible. The school and school staff will not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage to technology devices nor will they investigate loss or damage.

Our School's Code of Conduct outlines the consequences of irresponsible use of devices including the filming, photographing and distributing of content obtained without consent.

The Commonwealth's Criminal Code Act 1995, section 4.7.4.17 notes that it is an offence for a person to use 'a carriage service to menace, harass or cause offence.'

The Commonwealth's Criminal Code Act 1995, section 4.7.4.15 notes that it is an offence for a person to use 'a carriage service to make a threat.'

The Commonwealth's Crimes Act 1914, part VIIB, section 85ZE notes that it is an offence for 'a person to knowingly or recklessly use a telecommunications service supplied by a carrier in such a way as would be regarded by reasonable persons being, in all the circumstances, offensive.'

The sending of images is also covered by various State and Commonwealth laws that prevent the publication of material that is objectionable, unclassified or unsuitable for minors.

** Individual medical circumstances are considered and Restricted Exemptions may be given, at the Principal's discretion.