



A School With A View

MOBILE PHONE/DEVICES POLICY

PURPOSE

Mobile phones and devices are important modern day communication tools, essential in providing a safe and effective school environment. However, they can easily be improperly used, lost or damaged and must therefore be effectively managed.

On Wednesday 26 June 2019 the Minister for Education, the Hon James Merlino MP, announced a new schools Mobile Phone Policy which will come into effect from Term 1, 2020. The new policy will require all students at Victorian state primary and secondary schools to switch off their mobile phones and store them securely from the start of the school day until the final bell.

OBJECTIVE

To utilise the benefits of mobile phones/devices for staff and students.

To ensure the safety of students on their way to and from school whilst managing the problems they can potentially cause.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- all staff, including casual relief staff and volunteers
- all students who bring mobile phones/watches or devices to school

POLICY

Staff:

- take mobile phones on yard duty, incursions, excursions, sporting events and camps to ensure immediate contact to the emergency services, the school office and parents if necessary
- use of mobile phones/ipad is necessary to mark the roll on Compass and to photograph/record student progress for continuous reporting
- mobile phones should not be used for personal reasons during class time

Students:

- once students arrive at school they must hand their phones/devices to the office staff who lock them in a secure place for the day
- if contact to home is needed during the day this will be done by the staff at school
- students can collect phones/devices at the end of the day and leave the school grounds
- devices are not to be used to take photographs of students on the school premises
- the principal may revoke a student's privilege of bringing mobile phones/devices to school if there is inappropriate use of phones/devices on school grounds

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was ratified in August 2019 and is scheduled for review in August 2020.