



Saint Stephen's College

MOBILE PHONE POLICY (updated 21 February 2018)

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide students of Saint Stephen's College with guidelines regarding the appropriate use of mobile phones during the school day.

The use of mobile phones is not permitted in the classroom, or between classes. This stance has been adopted as mobile phones are not a necessary part of teaching and learning at Saint Stephen's College. All educational activities relating to the use of technology can be done with a laptop.

Mobile phones have proven to be a distraction in classrooms across Australia; in a recent paper about how Generation Z transitions into further education and employment, it was reported that 89% of all high school students claim they are using their mobile phones during class and 47% of students are spending up to half an hour of their class time per day looking at their mobile phones (Bisson, R & Stublely, W, (2017). 'After the ATAR: Understanding How Gen Z Transition into Further Education and Employment', Year13, Australia).

Guidelines

1. The use of mobile phones during class time, between classes and while lining up for class is not permitted.
 2. Mobile phones should be switched off or turned to silent during these times and therefore should not be heard or seen.
 3. Mobile phones that are used, including being seen or heard, at these times, will be confiscated till the end of the day at which time they can be collected from the relevant Head of Year. Repeated infringements will result in detentions or suspension from the College.
 4. In the case of an emergency and/or contact needs to be made between a parent and a child, the College Administration is a vital and appropriate point of contact as is the current policy.
 5. Additionally, mobile phones are banned from College camps; a contact number/s will be provided to parents during these times, for urgent use only.
- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to the College do so at their own risk and are responsible for the security of said mobile phones. Saint Stephen's College accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones.
 - It should be noted that it is a criminal offence to use mobile phones (or any technology for that matter) to threaten, harass or offend another person. Serious consequences will ensue in such situations, and this may include involving the relevant authorities.

It is the responsibility of students who bring mobile phones on to the College premises to adhere to the guidelines outlined in this document.

(Student Name)

(Date)