



## MOBILE PHONE POLICY (2019)

### 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 while on campus or attending College events. 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. Studies have established mobile phones are a distraction in classrooms across Australia and hinder personal development by restricting social interaction.

### Expectations

1. Mobile phones are not to be used, seen or heard from the time students arrive at the start of the school day until the end of class at 3.05pm. This includes College activities such as events, excursions and sport.
2. Mobile phones should be switched off or turned to silent during these times.
3. Mobile phones that are used, seen or heard during the school day, will be confiscated till the end of the day. The device can be collected from the relevant Head of Year/P-6 Administration after 3.05pm. Repeated infringements will result in detentions or suspension from the College.
4. Additionally, mobile phones are banned from school camps; a contact number/s will be provided to parents during these times, for urgent use only.
5. In case of emergency during the school day, parents can contact their children by email or by calling the relevant College Administration reception.
6. Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school 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.
7. It should be noted that it is a criminal offence to use mobile phones (or any technology) to threaten, harass, invade a person's privacy or offend another person. Serious consequences will ensue in such situations, and this may include involving relevant authorities.
8. It is the responsibility of students who bring mobile phones to College activities to adhere to the expectations outlined in this document.