

ALLORA P-10 STATE SCHOOL



Student Mobile Phone / Internet Enabled Device Policy

Rationale

Definition: Whilst this policy primarily refers to mobile phones, it also incorporates all Internet Enabled Devices such as tablets and laptop computers that may independently access the Internet or be tethered to a mobile phone. Henceforth, when I refer to a mobile phone within the policy, understand that I am also referring to all Internet Enabled Devices.

The increased ownership of mobile phones requires that school administrators, teachers, students and parents take steps to ensure that mobile phones are used responsibly. Whilst it is acknowledged that providing a child with a mobile phone gives parents reassurance that their child can contact them in emergency or risk situations involving personal security and safety, this does not apply during the school day when students can access the school phones and personnel. At the same time it is acknowledged that students are more mobile than previously, as they may be involved in programmes that take them away from the school campus.

The following policy has been developed so students understand appropriate use of mobile phones while at our school. It is a privilege and not a right to have a mobile phone at school, where you must consider how your actions impact others. With this in mind, the following policy MUST be upheld if a student is to have a mobile phone at school.

Responsibility

1. It is the responsibility of students who bring mobile phones on to the school premises to adhere to the guidelines outlined in this document.
2. The decision to provide a mobile phone to their children should be made by the parents / guardians and they should be aware if their child takes a mobile phone on to school premises.
3. Any student who brings a mobile phone on to school premises will be required to register their mobile phone with school administration as well as sign and return the attached Mobile Phone Agreement.

Security

1. Students in years 7-10 are responsible for the security of their mobile phones. Students in Prep – 6 are to hand in their mobile phones to their class teacher.
2. At all times, care and consideration must be given to other people.
3. Mobile phones should only be used when they do not cause annoyance to others.
4. The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones.
5. Mobile phones are to be clearly marked with the student's name.
6. Mobile phones should be kept in a secure / safe place at all times; students are advised to keep them well concealed and not 'advertise' they have them.
7. It is strongly advised that students use passwords / pin numbers to ensure that unauthorised phone calls cannot be made on their mobile phones. Students are encouraged to keep their passwords / pin numbers confidential.
8. Mobile phones which are found on school premises and whose owner cannot be identified, should be handed into administration.

Acceptable Use

1. All mobile phones MUST BE REGISTERED with administration. This is achieved by handing your attached Mobile Phone Agreement to administration and registering your mobile phone.
2. Times for mobile phone use are as follows:
 - i. Before or after school
 - ii. During recess breaks
3. Mobile phones are to be switched off while students are in class, unless permission is specifically given by the classroom teacher.
4. During permitted times while on school premises or participating in school-related activities, students are to use soundless features.
5. Students should be aware that mobile phones ringing during lesson time are likely to be confiscated for the remainder of the day and permission to have the device at school, may be revoked. Parents and students are reminded that in the case of an emergency, our administration remains the appropriate point of contact.

Unacceptable Use

1. The use of a mobile phone during class time is inappropriate, unless permission is specifically given by the classroom teacher.
2. It is a criminal offence to use mobile phones to menace, harass or offend another person. Students who use their mobile phones to:
 - engage in personal attacks,
 - harass another person,
 - post private information about another person using SMS messages or social media,
 - take or send unauthorised photos or objectionable images,
 - make unauthorised recordings,
 - bully other students,
 - use vulgar, derogatory or obscene language,will have their phone confiscated for a period decided by the Principal. Students should note that in extreme cases, the school might consider it appropriate to involve the police.
3. Any student caught using a mobile phone to cheat in exams or assessments, will face disciplinary action as sanctioned by the school, which is likely to include the loss of all marks for the examination or assessment item.

Consequences

Any student found not to be following this policy, could have any of the following consequences applied and recorded on One School:

- loss of mobile phone for 1 day
- loss of mobile phone for 1 week and parents / guardians contacted
- mobile phone returned to parents and student loses the privilege of bringing the device to school.

NB: The Principal has the right to remove a mobile phone permanently and send it home should a student be unable to follow this policy. This policy allows students to take responsibility for their actions, whilst also having access to useful technology.



SHAUN KANOWSKI
Principal
27 January 2021

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Student Mobile Phone / Internet Enabled Device Policy Agreement

STUDENT:

I have read and accept to follow the school's policy for bringing my mobile phone to school.

My mobile phone number is:

.....
(Signature and date - Student)

PARENT / GUARDIAN:

I have read and accept the school's mobile phone policy. I permit my child to bring their mobile phone to school and understand that this is conditional.

.....
(Signature and date - Parent / Guardian)

POLICY UPDATES:

This policy and associated procedures may be updated or revised from time to time. The school will notify you if the policy or procedure is changed.
Policy reviewed: January 2021