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Mobile Phones (Student Use Of)

The Hazard - Mobile Phones

Mobile phones can create a range of hazards when brought to school:

- They are valuable items that can easily be lost, stolen or damaged in the school environment;
- Using phones inappropriately to bully, intimidate or harass people can have serious consequences including police involvement; and
- Mobile phone usage in schools not only disrupts learning for the phone user but also for fellow students.

Mater Dei's Policy

Mater Dei School acknowledges parents/guardians may wish their child to carry a mobile phone for personal safety reasons however, the right of a student to have access to a mobile phone at school must be balanced with the responsibility to use it appropriately.

It is our policy that:

- Mobile phones are brought to school at the owner's own risk. No liability will be accepted by the school in the event of loss, theft or damage of the phone;
- Mobile phones must only be used by students before or after school;
- Mobile phones must be checked in at Reception upon the students arrival to school and retrieve them before Taxi in the afternoon;
- Mobile phones must not be used inappropriately. Refer to our [Bullying Prevention and Intervention, Cyber Safety and Information and Communication Technology Policies](#);
- Phone cameras are not to be used within the school grounds and in particular, where it would be considered inappropriate such as in change rooms or toilets;
- Students should never photograph or record any person without their express permission; and
- Parents/guardians are to be informed that in cases of emergency, the school remains an appropriate point of contact to reach their child quickly.

Employee Responsibilities

All employees are responsible for:

- Modelling appropriate behaviour at all times;
- Being vigilant in monitoring students possession and use of mobile phones;
- Dealing with all reported and observed incidents of inappropriate mobile phone use in accordance with this policy; and

- Ensuring that any incident of inappropriate mobile phone use that they observe or is reported to them, is recorded appropriately.

Implementation

This policy is implemented through a combination of:

- Staff training;
- Effective student supervision;
- Effective incident notification procedures;
- Effective communication procedures;
- Effective management of incidents of inappropriate mobile phone usage when reported and/or observed;
- Effective record keeping procedures; and
- Initiation of corrective actions where necessary.

Discipline for Breach of Policy

Where a staff member breaches this policy Mater Dei School may take disciplinary action.

Related Policies

[Bullying Prevention & Intervention Policy](#)
[Cyber Safety Policy](#)
[Information & Communication Technology Policy](#)
[Social Media- Organisational Usage Policy](#)
[Social Media- Personal Usage Policy](#)
[Student Photographs & Privacy Policy](#)