



MOBILE PHONE POLICY

In writing this policy we recognise the benefits of current technology and the growing appropriate use of these devices within the school and the classroom. We are wary that mobile devices with earphones may cause damage to hearing, be a possible hazard as bells and conversations may not be heard and that students may be isolated from their peers. As such we encourage students to refrain from having the volume up and using earphones during school time.

If students choose to bring their mobile device to GMAS it is their responsibility to keep it safe. Mobile devices and similar devices are allowable in the following situations:

- on bus trips to and from school or sporting trips (but not once off the bus)
- on the bus to and from excursions, with the permission of the staff member (but not once off the bus)
- in teacher directed learning during class where such devices are integral to the learning process
- during study periods and examination preparation times
- where a student has a demonstrated hearing impediment where medical advice supports use of the device

They are not permitted:

- to have the volume at a level whereby someone next to them can hear it or if bells and directions cannot be easily heard
- in the classroom (when not directed by teaching staff)
- in the playgrounds
- at carnivals, such as Athletics, Cross Country or Swimming, or other special community occasions such as Presentation Night, Valete or Foundation Day,
- in examinations (unless directed under Special Provisions), or
- to be connected to any school computer, unless written permission has been given by a staff member

The use of these devices requires the user to be mindful of removing earphones when in conversation or being addressed by a fellow student or staff member.

Many of these devices also have cameras. Care should be taken when using the camera feature. No photo or video should be taken without the permission of the subject. No photo or video should be taken in toilets or change rooms. No photos or video should be uploaded onto websites without the prior written permission of the Head of Sub School.

Unacceptable Use:

Students are warned that inappropriate use of mobile phones could be contravening the Privacy Act, Copyright Act, Equal Opportunity Act, Censorship Act, Criminal Code or Cybercrime Act. These Acts cover such aspects as sexual or racial harassment, bullying in general, possessing indecent material, showing offensive material to a person under 16 years of age, unauthorised access to or infecting communication technology and disclosing personal information.

Students found breaking these rules will have their mobile device confiscated (and held by Student Services) until the end of the day/week. If students break these rules a second time they will be issued with

a detention and have their mobile device confiscated (and held by Student Services) for a period of a week or forfeit the right to have the device at GMAS.

Serious breaches of a person's privacy or acts of bullying/cyberbullying by the misuse of a mobile device and/or camera can lead to a student's enrolment being terminated.

Ted Kosicki
Principal