

## **MOBILE PHONES POLICY**

Cell phones can be useful. They can help people stay in touch with friends and family and access useful information.

**But** at school, they are a big **distraction**.

We want our students to make the most of their time at school. Without the distractions of a phone, we believe students are better able to engage in their learning.

### **No phones at school**

No phones are allowed at school from the time a student arrives at school until they leave school.

### **No phones at break times**

No phones can be used at break times. We want to ensure that digital harm does not happen in the playground.

### **Smartwatches**

Smartwatches can be worn at school but cannot be used like a phone. Notifications must be turned off.

**Students who can use their phone** must need it to support their learning or for medical reasons (for example, diabetes monitoring). Parents should arrange this with their child's Dean.

### **If a phone is confiscated**

Parents or caregivers must come into school and collect the phone. Phones can be collected after school.

If a student has their phone confiscated, they cannot ask for it during the day or ask another teacher to get it for them.

### **If a student needs to contact their parents**

There is a student phone in the student office reception area for students to use if they need to call their parents.

### **If parents need to contact their child**

Parents can call the office to get messages through to their child(ren) and these messages can be passed on to students.

### **No social media at school**

While it can be helpful to stay connected with people, it is not okay to use social media at school (on a laptop) as it is a distraction from learning. Social media, including group chats, are sometimes used by people to say hurtful things or exclude others. It can have a negative impact on a person's ability to learn and feel positive about themselves and their learning.