

Murrayville Community College Mobile Phone Policy

Rationale

Mobile phones are an important day communication tool, essential in providing a safe and effective school environment. However, they can easily be improperly used, lost or damaged and must therefore be effectively managed. The school does not accept responsibility for lost or damaged phones.

Aim

To utilize the benefits of mobile phones whilst managing the problems they can potentially cause.

1. All students who bring a phone to school must turn it off and store it in a safe place. They remain the student's responsibility. Phones must remain off during school hours. It would be beneficial if phones could be named.
2. Secondary students should leave their phone in their bag or in their pocket but it must be TURNED OFF during class time or senior study periods, except for when a teacher requests them to be used as calculators, timers, to listen to podcasts etc.
3. No photos are to be taken.
4. Phones are not to be used to access social media or for texting during school hours, including during bus travel, with the exception of texting family members about travel arrangements. The sending of offensive or inappropriate materials and texts is not tolerated.
5. Mobile phones are not permitted to be used to provide an internet service (through a 'hotspot') whilst at school.
6. No phones can be taken into exams or tests.
7. If students bring a mobile phone to school or a camp/excursion, they are to provide their number to the front office.
8. Students may bring one (1) mobile phone on a camp/excursion if prior approval has been given by parents. They are to be turned off during educational visits and handed to staff when requested. They are to be handed to the staff in charge at bed times.
9. Teachers in charge of all excursions, camps and trips involving students must ensure a mobile phone accompanies each trip and a contact number is provided to the office. Reimbursement for calls made by staff for school related matters while on a school camp or excursion may be claimed through the administration.
10. In order to minimize classroom disruption, teachers are requested to have their mobile phones switched off during class time unless there are exceptional circumstances.
11. Having a phone at school is a privilege. Abuse of this privilege will result in consequences at the school's discretion.
12. All parent contact or emergency calls are to go through the front office.

Evaluation

When First Approved: 21st May 2007

When Reviewed / Modified: 8th August 2016