

# DVHS Mobile Phone Policy

Mobile phones are part of modern society and the majority of students will now own a mobile phone. We understand that for safety reasons students will carry a mobile phone in order to contact parents/carers after school/before school. However, mobile phones can lead to several problems in school, for example bullying, disruption to lessons and inappropriate web usage. As a school we strongly encourage our students to talk to each other and develop friendship groups at break and lunchtime, as opposed to using their mobile phones. As a result the use of mobile phones during school hours is completely forbidden, and students found using their mobile phone during school hours will be dealt with in accordance with this policy.

## **Purpose**

1. To clarify the school position on mobile phones.
2. To ensure that staff, students and parents are fully conversant with the policy and understand the reasons for the policy.
3. To support our behaviour management policy, which aims for outstanding behaviour and safety of students across the school.
4. To ensure that student welfare and safeguarding incidents associated with mobile phones are minimised.

## **Guidelines**

1. Any student seen using their mobile phone during school hours will have their phone confiscated. **Phones must not be seen or heard.**
2. This includes the use of 'Smart' or Apple watches – the use of these is not allowed as they are effectively mobile phones and will be treated as such.
3. Confiscated phones must be taken to the pastoral administrator in the pastoral office where the phone will be secured in a locked cupboard.
4. After the first confiscation students will be able allowed to collect their phone at the end of the day, after 3.15pm. Parents will be required to collect the mobile phone following the second or any subsequent confiscations, parents are also allowed to collect the phone if confiscated on the first occasion.
5. When a phone is confiscated for a second time parents need to be aware that there may be a time delay before the phone is able to be collected.
6. If students need to contact home during the school day then they will be permitted to use a school phone.
7. Any instances of students having their phones confiscated will see the incident recorded on Class charts and could lead to further sanctions including detentions or seclusions.
8. Students must not use their phone to listen to music if they are cycling to school. Students should also be mindful of traffic and dangerous situations if using their phone when walking to and from school.
9. Students will receive assemblies explaining the mobile phone policy and the policy will be placed on the school website for parents/carers to access.
10. When issues with mobile phones exist that involve serious misuse of the phone, transmitting images, cyber bullying etc. parents will be brought into school and it will be explained to them that parents are responsible for the phone and any issues resulting from the phone when it is used by a 'minor'