



Mobile Phone Policy

MOBILE PHONES – ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

1 Purpose

The increased ownership of mobile phones requires that school communities take steps to ensure that mobile phones are used responsibly. This Acceptable Use Policy is designed to ensure that potential issues (such as mobile etiquette) can be clearly identified and addressed; ensuring the benefits that mobile phones provide (such as increased safety and security) can continue to be enjoyed by our students.

Mount Barker High School has established the following Acceptable Use Policy for mobile phones that provides teachers, students and parents with guidelines and instructions for the appropriate use of mobile phones during school hours.

The Policy also applies to students during school excursions, camps and extra-curricular activities. In the case of school camps involving overnight stay, the school does not encourage students attending, to carry mobile phones (staff school mobile phone numbers will be made available to parents for emergency purposes).

2 Rationale

Mount Barker High School accepts that parents give their children mobile phones to protect them from everyday risks involving personal security and safety. There is also ever-increasing concern about children travelling alone on public transport or commuting long distances to school. It is acknowledged that providing a child with a mobile phone gives parents reassurance that they can speak with their child quickly, at any time.

Mount Barker High School accepts that electronic devices are a part of everyday life and can add value to a student's educational experience if appropriately incorporated into the learning program.

3 Responsibility

- 3.1 It is the responsibility of students who bring mobile phones onto school premises to adhere to the guidelines outlined in this document.
- 3.2 Parents/guardians should be aware if their child takes a mobile phone onto school premises.

4 Expectations

- 4.1 Mobile phones must normally be switched or on silent off during classroom lessons. Exceptions may be permitted when a teacher requests that students embrace the technologies provided by a smart phone.
- 4.2 Parents are reminded that in cases of emergency, the school's Front Office remains a vital and appropriate point of contact and can ensure children are reached quickly, and assisted in any appropriate way.

4.3 Mobile phones should not be used in any manner or place that is disruptive to the normal routine of the school.

5 Theft or damage

5.1 The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones.

6 Inappropriate conduct

Disciplinary Actions as sanctioned by Mount Barker High School will be imposed for inappropriate use:

6.1 Students who use their phones to send and/or accept calls or messages, engage in social media or games, during lessons.

6.2 Students who use inappropriate language while using a mobile.

6.3 Student/s found using a mobile phone to gain advantage in exams or assessments.

6.4 Using mobile phone applications to engage in personal attacks, harass another person, or post private information about another person is a criminal offence.

6.5 Mobile phones may not be used to photograph or record another person without permission. Posting/sending of such photos or recordings, and objectionable images is a criminal offence.

Mobile Phone Procedures

Mobile Phone Use Expectations

Students

- Mobile phones are switched off or on silent when in class
- Mobile phones are normally left out of sight in class
- Mobile phones are only used for approved learning purposes when in class

Staff

- Mobile phones are switched off or on silent during lessons
- Mobile phones are normally left in the teacher's office/bag/pocket in class
- Mobile phones are only used for teaching purposes during lessons
- If a mobile phone needs to be used in class for a school purpose (eg contacting an AP) the class will be informed of the reason for the phone being used in advance (this could be part of the class expectations discussion at the start of each new class)

Procedures for Inappropriate Mobile Phone Use

If a student uses their phone for a personal reason (eg sending/receiving phone/text messages, facebook, games...) during lesson –

In the first instance the teacher will issue a calm reminder and walk away.

If the student complies there is no further action.

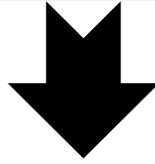
If the student does not comply or gets the phone out again the teacher should calmly ask them to put it into the technology box. If the student does not comply, do not let the situation escalate – tell the student that they know the expectations and you will follow it up with them after the lesson, and ensure that you do so.

In as first instance it may be enough for you to talk things over with the student, but on subsequent instances or in more extreme situations contact home and set a detention.

For persistent mobile phone use refer the student to the sub-school leader.

Mobile Phone Policy Flow Chart

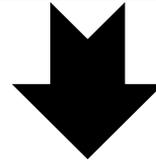
Student uses a mobile phone in class for a personal reason (eg sending/receiving a text or phonecall, facebook, snapchat, games...) during lesson.



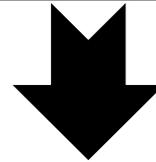
Teacher issues a calm reminder to put the phone away and walks away.



Student complies – no further action taken.



Student does not put the phone away – teacher does not issue another warning but instructs the student to place the mobile phone in the technology box.



If the student refuses do not let the situation disrupt teaching and learning. Tell the student there will be further consequences and ensure that these are followed up after the lesson.

It may be enough for you to talk things over with the student in the first instance, but on subsequent instances or in more extreme situations contact home and set a detention.

For persistent mobile phone use refer the student to the sub-school leader.