

Policy on Mobile Phones and other Technological Equipment

Technology has enhanced our lives, sometimes however it can be a distraction and maybe a potential invasion of privacy. Technological devices such as smart phones i-pods and tablets etc. can distract pupils and teachers, interrupt the teaching-learning process and infringe on privacy.

To ensure that the rights of students and teachers to privacy and uninterrupted learning are upheld, the following rules apply to mobile phones and other technological devices:

1. Use of mobile phones as a camera on the school premises is strictly forbidden.
2. Students may have a phone but they are responsible for its safe keeping and ensuring it does not infringe the rights of other students and teachers must ensure that any phone or device they have is switched off in the classroom and is not activated in any way.
3. The student must ensure that no phone or other device is visible in the classroom in any way. This includes ear phones and other devices which may not be used in class for any other purpose whatsoever. This includes their use as phones, for texting, recording, taking pictures, as calculators, checking the time etc.
4. If any phone or device rings, is activated or is visible, the teacher will confiscate them. This includes earphones and any device attached to them.

'Classroom' includes all areas where teaching and learning takes place including subject classrooms, laboratories, workshops, the gym and especially changing areas.

Pupils will be asked to switch off their phone before they hand it over. The teacher will then leave them in the Deputy Principals office for a minimum of two weeks. Only after two full weeks have elapsed may they be collected from the Deputy Principals office following a pre-arranged appointment by a parent or guardian.