



Mobile Phone Policy

DATE: December 2018

Purpose

Elwood College recognises that mobile phones are commonly owned and used by students in many situations and for many purposes. However, there are also risks associated with mobile phone use, including distracting students from learning and inhibiting peer social interactions. This policy outlines the rules for use of mobile phones at school and during school events.

Scope

This policy applies to all students of Elwood College during school hours and at compulsory school events both during and outside of school hours, including camps, excursions and social events.

Policy

In general, mobile phones are not to be used at school for any purpose unless the use is for a specific learning purpose that is approved by a teacher or staff member and is logged in a lesson plan.

The Elwood Bring Your Own Device program specifies that laptops, tablets and iPads are appropriate devices for accessing digital resources at school. Mobile phones should be turned off at all times whilst at school.

Students must not use mobile phones on the school grounds between 9am – 3:20pm, including during recess and lunch. These times are available for social, face to face interactions.

Students are not permitted to make contact with any person via a mobile phone during school hours. This includes parents, friends and other people outside the school. Communication between parents and students should always be made through the school office. If a student is unwell or needs to leave school early they must contact the office first.

Whilst at school, students must only access the Internet via the school's WiFi. Mobile phones use telecommunication carrier networks which bypass the Department of Education internet security. Bypassing this is in breach of the school's acceptable technology use agreement, which all students sign at the commencement of each year. Breach of the rules around technology use, including mobile phones, may result in detention and/or confiscation of the student's device.

Review cycle and evaluation

This policy was created in 2018 and is due for review in 2021.