



MOUNT MERCY COLLEGE -MOBILE PHONE POLICY

1. Students may not use their mobile phones during school hours.
2. Students who carry a mobile phone to and from school are required to store the phone in their lockers and switched off during the school day, i.e. 8.30am - 3.40pm.
3. Students may not phone, text or use the phone in any way during the school day, including break times (class/lunch) or early morning upon arrival to school.
4. Students found in breach of school rules relating to use of mobile phones will be subject to the following:

First Offence: Students will have their phones confiscated and retained in the school office. Parent/Guardian will be contacted by the school on the day the phone is confiscated. The phone will only be released to the *Parent/Guardian* from the school office.

Second Offence: Phone will be confiscated, Parent must collect from the school office and students will sit Detention.

Third and subsequent offence: Suspension as determined by the Principal.

Parents are asked to cooperate with the above and not to contact their daughter directly during the school day. In the case of emergency parents can contact their daughter via the school office phone.

5. The school is not responsible for loss or theft of mobile phones.
6. Should a student use a mobile phone to bully or harass others this behaviour will merit serious sanction.
7. Should a student use a mobile phone or electronic device to video, record, photograph another student or staff member will merit an automatic two day suspension.
8. Students, Parent(s) and Guardian(s) are advised that the possession of mobile phones or other electronic devices is strictly prohibited during examinations and will disqualify the candidate(s).

RATIONALE FOR THIS POLICY:

Mount Mercy College's revised policy on mobile phones is put in place:

- a) to protect our students and staff
- b) to ensure that teaching and learning is not disrupted by these devices
- c) to promote the independence of our students
- d) to prevent bullying and harassment

HEALTH & SAFETY RATIONALE:

The Board of Management recognise that parents and students may view this policy as harsh and/or extreme, but in the interests of the Health and Safety of our school community the draft revised rules will apply.

This policy has been put in place temporarily, consultation with parents/students, Parents Association, Staff and Board of Management will take place in September.

Ipad / Ebooks

The use of ipads was introduced for 1st years in September 2013. All students using the ipad initiative are requested to comply with the Mount Mercy College Acceptable Use Policy and the Digital Citizenship Protocol.

NOTE: *There is a phone available to students in the office should a student need to contact home. Parents may contact students through the school office @ 021-4542366 / 021-4542685.*