



John Paul College

## Use of Mobile Phones and Other Digital Devices by Students

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Mobile phones, MP3 players and other similar digital devices have become a normal and acceptable technological accessory for people of all ages to use to their own advantage. As in the wider society, so too is this the case increasingly in schools.

The College recognises that there are occasions when it is genuinely appropriate and beneficial for students to have access to such devices. Students may, for example, need to contact parents in emergencies or to confirm or change a collection time after school. However, there are occasions when the use of these devices by students should be restricted.

- The following expectations constitute the John Paul College policy on the use of mobile phones, MP3 players and other similar digital devices by students.
- The College strongly recommends that students use only phones that have a disabling facility.
- It is important that students display courtesy, consideration and respect for others whenever they are using a mobile phone.
- These devices should not be used in any manner or place that is disruptive to the normal routine of the College.
- Students should only use their mobile phones before or after school, or during recess and lunch breaks.
- Students should have mobile phones switched off and out of sight during classes, assemblies and services, ensuring that they are stored in a safe and secure place, for example, in uniform pocket or notebook computer case. Storage of these devices in student bags, unsecured on port-racks, is not advisable.
- Students in the Primary School are not permitted to bring I-pods or MP3 players to school.
- For all other students, MP3 players and similar digital devices must be switched off and out of sight during assemblies and services however their use during class time is at the discretion of the teacher and the music being listened to should be conducive to learning and legally procured.
- Earphones or headphones are not to be worn while moving around the College campus for the following reasons:
  - If hearing is restricted then student safety is at risk.
  - Students are not able to return greetings if they cannot hear them.
- These devices are not to be brought into an area where exams are taking place.
- In-phone cameras are not to be used anywhere a normal camera would be considered inappropriate, such as in change rooms or toilets.
- Students must not photograph or film other individuals without their consent or send harassing or threatening messages.



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- Mobile phones and other portable digital devices are brought onto College property and used at their owners' risk. **No liability will be accepted by the College in the event of the loss, theft or damage of any device.**
- This policy also applies to students during school excursions, camps and co-curricular activities. The College reserves the right to ban the taking of devices by students to certain College excursions or tours.
- Failure to abide by the above policy expectations will result in appropriate disciplinary action being taken against the offending student(s).

It is hoped that the pursuance of this policy will lead to the sensible and trouble free use of mobile phones and other digital devices by students.