

Electronic Devices

Including Mobile Phones

POLICY

For the purpose of establishing this policy, an electronic device is defined as any personal electronic device that is capable of playing, recording, storing or transmitting sounds, images, or data. Examples of these types of devices include mobile phones, iPods, MP3 players, laptop computers, digital cameras and hand held game consoles such as Nintendo DSI.

Rationale:

Mobile phones and various electronic devices are important modern day communication tools. They can easily be improperly used, lost or damaged and must therefore be effectively managed in order to maintain a safe and effective school environment.

Aims:

To utilise the benefits of mobile phones and electronic devices whilst managing the problems they can potentially cause.

Implementation:

- Each student and staff member is responsible for the security of their personal electronic devices. The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged devices whilst at school, participating in school activities or travelling to and from school.
- The use of any electronic device to take photographs or video while at school or a school event is not allowed, unless permission has been given by a teacher. This includes on buses to and from School.
- Students at Sale Specialist School are not permitted to have electronic devices on their person during normal school hours, unless permission has been given by a teacher. This includes class time, recess and lunch times and whilst participating in school activities.
- Students are asked to hand their mobile phone or electronic devices to their class teacher, when they arrive at school, to be stored securely during the school day. Devices can be collected at the end of the school day.
- If a student is seen with an electronic device during the normal school day or during school activities this will be confiscated and stored securely in the main office. Students will then be required to collect the device from the main office at the end of the day.
- Should a student re-offend by using an electronic device during the school day or during school activities the device will then be retained and the Parent/Guardian will be asked to collect it. They shall, in turn, be asked to ensure that their child does not bring the device back to school.
- Parents/Guardians are able to phone the school in emergencies and their child will be given a message or brought to the phone to speak with the parent/guardian.

Inappropriate conduct

- It is inappropriate for any student to use derogatory and objectionable images or language while using any electronic device at school or found on a device at school.
- It is inappropriate for students to use mobile phones or other electronic devices to engage in personal attacks, harass another person, post private information about another person, or take/send photos or objectionable images. This action can constitute bullying, harassment or even trafficking pornography. If a criminal offence occurs, police will be notified.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

Principal _____ School Council President _____

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

October 2011