

# Davidson High School Mobile Phone Policy

It is the goal of Davidson High School to work with the community in ensuring that children are safe and fully engaged in their learning while at school. Mobiles phones continue to cause a distraction to students and are often misused in a social context.

Davidson High School recognises that most young people possess a mobile phone and that there are times when it is genuinely appropriate and useful for students to have access to a mobile phone. They may be needed as a learning tool, for safety or as a form of communication between parents and students.

Davidson High School supports the appropriate use of mobile phones and expects that all students attending the school use them within this policy and the guidelines provided.

## Student Responsibility

While the school will attempt to recover a stolen or damaged phone, the school does not accept responsibility for the replacement costs of a lost, stolen or damaged phone. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure the security of their own phone and they bring it to school at their own risk.

The student is fully accountable for the use of their mobile phone and it is their responsibility to use it appropriately and when directed by staff.

## Acceptable use of mobile phones

* Students are allowed to use their mobile phones before and after school, during recess and lunch breaks and when a teacher directs them to use it as a learning tool during a lesson.
* ALL students will place their mobile phone in the class room box at the beginning of each lesson. They can be collected at the completion of each lesson.
* Mobile phones should not be used in any manner that disrupts the learning of students and detracts from a positive learning environment.
* During school assemblies and year meetings mobile phones are to be turned off and headphones are to be left in school bags.
* Students are not to have or be using a mobile phone when out of class on a leave pass.
* Mobile phones are not to be used to record, distribute, display or upload images or videos of students, staff or parents on school premises. Any breach of this will be dealt with by the school disciplinary policy and the DoE Suspension and Expulsion Policy.
* Using mobile phones to film people and their activities without their knowledge and/or permission is an invasion of privacy.

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## Illness or emergencies

* Mobile phones must not be used to bypass school procedures in relation to official notification of student illness or early departure from school.
* The school asks parents to contact the front office in the case of an emergency and the student will be brought to the office immediately. Students will not be allowed to leave class for an early leave pass unless they have been called for by the front office.
* Under no circumstances are students to contact parents and make private arrangements to leave school. If a student is feeling unwell, they are to follow school procedure and take a note from class to the front office. The student will be placed in sick bay and parents contacted.

## Consequences of unacceptable use

* Any student who has their phone out during lessons without the direct instruction of the teacher will have their phone confiscated immediately. Students who do not cooperate with this instruction will be viewed as being defiant and uncooperative and will be dealt with through the school discipline processes and procedures (level system).
* A confiscated phone will be taken to the front office where it will be recorded and placed in the relevant student profile in the safe. At the conclusion of the day it must be collected from a Deputy Principal.
* If a mobile phone is confiscated twice regardless of the period this has occurred, then the student will either be asked to not bring the phone to school or they will have to hand it in to the front office at the beginning of each day and collected at the end for one week. This will be communicated to parents by the Deputy Principals.
* Harassment or bullying of fellow students via SMS text, voice messages, facebook, Instagram and snapchat will breach the school code of conduct and will be dealt with through the school disciplinary system and the DoE Suspension and Expulsion Policy. Regardless of whether this happens inside or outside of school hours the incident may be referred to the police for investigation as recommended by the DoE policy on managing social network incidents and the cyber bullying policy.
* If the school is aware of any material filmed, recorded, photographed or downloaded that is deemed inappropriate, it is entitled to confiscate the mobile phone and view the material in its role of Duty of Care.
* Any students caught using a mobile phone to cheat in exams or assessments will receive zero for the task and face disciplinary action in line with the school level system.