

Purpose

This policy provides direction to students, staff, families and caregivers about managing personal mobile phones and other digital devices that students choose to bring to school. Digital devices include, but are not limited to, smartwatches, tablets or laptops that are not part of a separate Bring Your Own Device arrangement. This policy applies while students are at school or attending an authorised school activity such as an excursion. This policy is part of the [College ICT Acceptable Use policy](#).

Mobile phone and personal devices use for students

Our school recognises that there are legitimate reasons for students to bring a mobile phone or personal device to school. This may include:

- to ensure their safety while travelling.
- so that students can be contacted in relation to their own responsibilities as a parent/caregiver.
- so that parents/caregivers can contact them outside of lesson times.

Students will use the Internet, e-mail, mobile phones or other ICT equipment only for positive learning purposes, not to be mean, rude or offensive, or to bully, harass, or in any way harm anyone else, or the College itself.

Students can use devices (personal or College owned) including but not limited to mobile phones, tablets, computers and laptops,

- In a class, only when a teacher indicates that it is acceptable and it does not interfere with their learning or the learning of other students.
- during private study in lesson time for positive learning purposes.
- during lesson breaks for purposes other than learning provided they follow the ICT Acceptable Use Policy.

As a senior secondary college, students at Thebarton Senior College are expected to act responsibly and maturely and to respect the rights of other students to learn, and of teachers to teach. We encourage all students to take responsibility for their actions, and staff will work side-by-side with students to promote the respectful use of devices.

Internet connection for personal devices

When students are using any personal devices for positive learning purposes, they must connect to the College BYOD wireless network to access the network and the internet while in the College. This requires a security certificate to be installed onto each device.

Roles and responsibilities

Principal

Ensure:

- this policy is clearly communicated and accessible to all students, staff, caregivers and families.
- there is a process for regular review of the policy.
- processes are in place for monitoring the school network and internet use by all members of the school community, visitors and meeting/conference attendees.

Respond to instances of non-compliance.

Report and respond to incidents of inappropriate use of personal devices in line with department policy and procedures and any legislative requirements.

School staff

Deliver learning opportunities and maintain a safe and productive learning environment. Take steps to minimise distractions from the non-educational use of personal devices in the learning environment.

Respond to instances of non-compliance in line with the school's policy.

Report and respond to incidents of inappropriate use of personal devices in line with department policy and procedures and any legislative requirements.

Model the safe, responsible and respectful use of mobile phones.

Students

Support this policy by following its requirements, including all reasonable directions from staff.

Use mobile phones or personal devices in line with this policy in a safe, responsible and respectful way and support peers to do the same.

Communicate respectfully with others and do not use a mobile phone or other personal device to bully, harass or threaten another person.

Respect others' rights to privacy and not to take photos, film or audio records of other people without their knowledge or permission.

Parents/Caregivers

Support the implementation of the school's policy, including the consequences for non-compliance with the policy as outlined in the ICT Acceptable Use Policy.

Use the school's formal communication channels in all instances to communicate with the school (including where a student requires early collection from school). Encourage their dependent to always report to a school staff member in the first instance if they become unwell or experience an issue at school.

Recognise the important role they play in supporting their dependent to use their mobile phone (or other personal device) in a safe, responsible and respectful way.

Communication and review

This policy reflects an update of the current College Student ICT Acceptable Use policy.

Consultation has been undertaken with Senior Management and Senior Leadership in the College.

Further consultation is currently being undertaken with staff and students.

Governing Council will be asked to review and ratify the policy in its next meeting.

This policy will be:

- made available to all students and staff via the College Portal.
- reviewed annually early in term 3 in preparation for the next school year.

Supporting information

This policy and others related to student activities in the College will be added to the Portal for easy access by students and staff.