

# Saint Ignatius College

## Geelong

### ACCEPTABLE USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES (INCLUDING MOBILE PHONES)

Saint Ignatius College values and respects the personal integrity of each individual – their right to personal space, their right to privacy, their right to be treated with respect and their responsibility to recognise and respect the rights of others. We are committed to the development of young adults of conscience and compassion.

The mobile phone is an effective and quick means of communication. Where unforeseen events occur, mobile phones provide students and their families with a ready means of communication. There is a need, however, to set clear guidelines and limit the use of mobile phones and other electronic devices (iPods, MP3 players, cameras, electronic pens, audio or video recorders and next generation devices) during the school day, in particular, to avoid unnecessary interference with teaching and learning. The College also places a high value on face-to-face communication. These principles govern our policy on the acceptable use of electronic devices.

Mobile phones and other electronic devices (iPods, MP3 players, cameras, electronic pens, audio or video recorders and next generation devices) which have the capacity to take photographs or act as audio or video recorders are not permitted to be used for non-educational purposes whilst at school or travelling to and from school. Students are instructed that mobile phones and other electronic devices are to be switched OFF during the school day and are not to be used nor seen. General exceptions described below. In accordance with Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority guidelines, mobile phones and other electronic devices must not be taken into examination rooms.

Parents are also advised that all communication with students is to be made through the School Office. Students may access a telephone by discussing the need with the relevant Head/Assistant Head of School.

Students are discouraged from bringing mobile phones and other electronic devices to school. When a student brings a mobile phone or other electronic device to school he/she is responsible for its security. The College does not accept responsibility for stolen, lost or misplaced electronic devices. Students are encouraged to store phones and other electronic devices in their lockers during the course of the normal school day. It is also an expectation of the school that all lockers are locked.

General Exceptions:

1. Students in Year 11 and 12 may use personal music players during supervised study periods and all students may use personal music players when travelling to and from school. Students are encouraged to listen to audio books and study notes during this time as a component of a balanced study routine.

- NB.
- » There is increasing evidence that the use of personal music players (iPods, MP3 players) contributes to hearing loss. Students and parents should inform themselves of potential risks and use such devices safely.
  - » Baroque music (A style of European music developed between about 1600 and 1750) has been shown to be conducive to enhancing memory and productivity.

2. Mobile phones may be used to ensure personal safety when travelling to and from school.

3. Mobile phones and other electronic devices may be accessed for educational purposes through the discretionary permission of a supervising teacher. The teacher will clearly identify when electronic devices are permitted to be used (for educational purposes).

For minor **infringements** students will have their electronic device confiscated and held at Reception until 3.05pm. A level one infringement notice will also be issued to the student. The accumulation of three level one electronic device related infringements will result in an after school detention. Sanctions increase in intensity dependent on the gravity of the violation/s and/or the frequency of the confiscation. It should be noted that confiscation (temporary removal of the object from the possession of the student to a safe place) is a legitimate form of sanction.