

MOBILE PHONES

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LAUNCESTON
CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

THE HAZARD - MOBILE PHONES

For the purpose of this policy, the term 'mobile phone' includes all wireless-enabled communication technologies/devices.

Mobile phones can create a range of hazards when brought to school:

- They are valuable items that can easily be lost, stolen or damaged in the school environment;
- Using phones inappropriately to bully, intimidate or harass people can have serious consequences including police involvement; and
- Mobile phone usage in schools not only disrupts learning for the phone user but also for fellow students.

LCS'S POLICY (KINDER TO YEAR 12)

LCS acknowledges parents may wish their child to carry a mobile phone for personal safety reasons however, the right of a student to have access to a mobile phone at school must be balanced with the responsibility to use it appropriately.

It is our policy for students in all year levels that:

- Mobile phones are brought to school at the owner's own risk. No liability will be accepted by the school in the event of loss, theft or damage of the phone;
- Mobile phones must not be used inappropriately. Refer to our [**Bullying Prevention and Intervention, Cyber Safety and Information and Communication Technology Policies**](#);
- Students must always display courtesy, consideration & respect for others when using a mobile phone;
- Staff should be alerted and exceptions requested if a student has special circumstances requiring the use of their mobile phone during school hours (e.g. health issues);
- Mobile phones must not be brought into exams or class assessments (even if they are turned off or on silent mode) without the express permission of the teacher;
- Phone cameras (including video) must not be used in class without the express permission of the class teacher;
- Phone cameras (including video) must not be used in places where it would be deemed inappropriate, such as changing rooms, toilets or swimming pools;
- Students should never photograph or record any person without their express permission; and
- Parents are to be informed that in cases of emergency, the School Office remains the point of contact to reach their child quickly.

JUNIOR SCHOOL POLICY

- Mobile phones are not permitted to be used at School by Junior School students;
- If a student is required to carry a phone for safety purposes to & from School, the phone must be handed in to the class teacher at the start of the day & collected again at the end of the day;
- Parents should contact the School Office if they wish to get a message to their child during the course of the school day; and
- Students are not permitted to take mobile phones on Excursions or Camps

MIDDLE SCHOOL POLICY

- Students must adhere to the **Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Policy** which includes guidelines for the responsible use of mobile phones;
- Middle School students may only use their mobile phones before or after school, not during recess or lunch breaks;
- Between the hours of 8:55am and 3:15pm, all mobile phones must be switched off & stored securely in bags or lockers. (Students are not permitted to carry their phone in their pocket or on their person);
- BYOD devices only may be used in class as per the Teacher's direction; and
- For excursions and camps, students will be advised prior to the event whether they are permitted to take mobile phone devices with them. In such cases, the class teacher or camp coordinator will outline expectations and rules in respect to the use of mobile phones during the excursion/camp.

SENIOR SCHOOL POLICY

- Students must adhere to the **Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Policy** which includes guidelines for the responsible use of mobile phones;
- Mobile phones must only be used by students before or after school, or during recess and lunch breaks;
- As a general rule, the use of Mobile Phones in the classroom is discouraged unless they can be appropriately incorporated into the learning program. If deemed appropriate, class teachers may allow the use of mobile phones during class for this purpose;
- Unless express permission is given by the class teacher, mobile phones must be kept on silent mode and kept out of sight during classroom lessons and school activities to minimise distractions; and
- Students are permitted to take mobile phones on Excursions and Camps. Refer to Excursion Policy and Camp Policy for more information.

CONSEQUENCES

The school's **Behaviour Management Policy** will be followed when responding to incidents which breach this policy.

Students who use mobile phones in class without permission will have their phone confiscated and the teacher will leave it at the office for the remainder of the school week. If students offend regularly, the Head of School will keep the phone and parents will have to collect the phone from the Head of School themselves.

RELATED POLICIES

Behaviour Management Policy

Bullying Prevention & Intervention Policy

Cyber Safety Policy

Information & Communication Technology (ICT) Policy