Mobile Phone Policy

(Endorsed in principle by Governing Council 5/12/17)

Context
The school acknowledges that mobile phones are common and that some parents provide their children with a mobile phone for use outside of school. Teaching and learning programs can be interrupted by texting, checking social media updates or by ring tones and message alerts. These interruptions can impact on classes. Teachers have the responsibility to ensure a safe and productive learning environment, free from interference and distraction created by mobile phones.

Policy
To assist our learning and cyber safe environment, mobile phones must be turned off, stored securely in lockers at the start of the school day and not taken to Home Group, to lessons, to the Study Centre or to the Library/Learning Centre.

It is acknowledged that there can be educational uses for personal mobile phones. A specific one-off use, it is at the explicit direction of the teacher and part of the teacher’s prior planning.

Procedures
Responsibilities of Students
1. Students choosing to bring mobile phones to school accept sole responsibility for their care. As with other personal items, the school cannot take responsibility if phones are lost, damaged or stolen.
2. Mobile phones must be stored turned off in a student’s own padlocked locker during Home Group and lessons. During the Term 1 trial, students can access their phones at recess and lunch. As a privilege, Year 12 students may check their phone at their locker in a non-contact study period.
3. Students with a Negotiated Education Plan can discuss any specific needs with the Manager of Personalised Learning or the Manager of the LINK program.
4. Students are expected to respond respectfully if approached by a staff member about phone use.

Responsibilities of Parents
1. Parents are requested to make contact via Student Services for urgent messages to be passed on to a student.

Responsibilities of Teachers
1. Teachers will model the appropriate use of mobile phones during school hours.
2. Teacher will confiscate mobile phones for breaches of the mobile phone policy.
3. Teachers will deliver any confiscated phone in a named envelope to Student Services by the end of the day.

Consequences
1. In the first instance, the confiscated mobile phone is available for collection at the end of the school day from Student Services by the student owner or their parent, only.
2. For repeated breaches, confiscation occurs as above, followed by the application of Student Behaviour Management procedures.