

ADHS Mobile Phone Policy

Purpose

This policy outlines the requirements relating to students using mobile phones during school hours and is consistent with the Directorate's Communities Online policy and Use of Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs) in Schools policy.

Definition

For the purpose of this policy, a mobile phone is a device with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network.

Rationale

Through the Technology Enabled Learning Program the ACT Education Directorate is committed to producing responsible, literate and knowledgeable digital citizens. As part of the program, from term 1 2018 all students from years 7 to 11 receive a Chromebook device. This has significantly reduced the need for student mobile phones to be used as a learning device in the classroom.

Unregulated non-educational use of mobile phones and related social media can harm learning, attention and wellbeing.

At ADHS we support people's right to learn and teach in an environment free of distractions, where face to face interactions and non-digital forms of learning are valued.

Appropriate use of Mobile Phones

- Phones are not to be used in the classroom
- Phones should not be visible or audible during class time
- All phones must be in bags and on silent
- Students must not take photos or make video or audio recordings of any individual or group without the express written permission of each individual and the permission of an appropriate staff member for each separate occasion
- Mobile phones are not to be used (or visible) inside toilet blocks or change rooms
- Contact by/with parents and carers during the school day is to be made via the Front Office in order that correct procedures are followed
- Exceptions to the policy may be applied if certain conditions are met. Exceptions can be granted by Executive Teachers

Implementation

If a phone is used inappropriately, staff will:

- Remind the student to put the phone in their bag
- If student has a phone out a second time, the student will be required to store the phone in a secure place for the remainder of the lesson
- If student refuses to cooperate, the behaviour will be addressed as non-compliance in accordance with the existing student management policy and procedures
- Repeated infringements will require the student and parents/carers to meet with the school to determine a suitable management plan, which could include leaving the phone at home or at the Front Office during school hours.

Exceptions

This policy acknowledges that mobile phone technology does have legitimate educational use. Therefore, when a student has been given explicit permission to access and use such devices to enhance learning by the classroom teacher, mobile phones will be permitted for that specific purpose. For a small number of students with health and wellbeing needs, an exception to the policy may also be granted. Exceptions will be approved and documented by the Executive Teacher.

Security

- The Directorate cannot filter, monitor and control private telephone mobile access on devices that are using 3G/4G type networks. However, existing student management procedures would apply to their use
- Schools are under no obligation to provide technical support for personal electronic devices
- Usage of mobile phones on school grounds, whether accessing the Directorate network or not, must comply with the terms and conditions of Education Directorate and school's policy
- Mobile phones owned by students are brought to schools at the owner's risk. The Directorate and/or school does not accept liability in the event of loss, theft or damage of a phone.

Related Policies

1. Communities Online: Acceptable Use of ICT – Parents and Students Policy
2. Use of Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs) in Schools Policy