

MOBILE PHONE AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES POLICY



At Home Hill SHS, it is strongly recommended that all electronic devices such as mobile phones and IPODS be left at home. They are not part of any curriculum undertaken at this school and are therefore not an essential learning tool. They have the potential to cause disruption and interfere with the learning/teaching process. They may also be stolen or damaged.

It should be noted that during school hours, while under the protection and guidance of teaching and administration staff, students must communicate with parents/guardians/outside personnel through the school office. Messages, be they informative or urgent, will be conveyed to students at an appropriate time. Students who might be feeling unwell must make arrangements through the school office, not directly with parents/guardians. School practice allows students to use the school phone, at no cost, should they need to contact home in an **urgent** situation.

Students therefore do not need their mobile phones during school hours. Our Policy is “We See, You Lose”.

The school acknowledges, however, that there are times when it is appropriate and beneficial for students to have access to a mobile phone or other electronic device before and after school.

Guidelines for Use

Therefore please note:

- **Mobile phones and all other electronic devices including IPODS, IPHONES, IPADS, MP3s and PDAs are not to be seen and are not to be heard during the school day (8.00am until 3:00pm).**
- These devices will be taken from the student if they are seen or heard. Parents will be requested to collect these devices from the office, by appointment with the Principal. If the device has previously been returned to the student/parent, the device will be held until the end of the term.
- Under no circumstance are earphones to be worn or be visible.
- **Teachers will advise students if these devices are to be used on excursions, camps or for specific education experiences.**
- The school takes no responsibility for the loss of mobile phones and other electronic devices.
- Any device issued by the school is exempt from this policy.

As well as formulating policies, we must engage in educating our students to value and protect each other. The role of parents and the community in this endeavour is vital.