

Mobile Phone and other Screen Technology Guidelines



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Whilst acknowledging the benefits afforded by modern technology, we recognise the significant concerns it can raise when not utilised safely and within the appropriate context. Because a mobile phone is a communication device, camera, and powerful computer, it is the moral duty of parents/guardians and teachers to moderate usage of and access to mobile phones.

There are very strong positives regarding the control of access to technology. Some of these are listed below:

- Improved academic performance;
- An increased respect for parents;
- A decreased chance of myopia, or shortsightedness
- An avoidance of pornography which distorts human relationships and, in particular, respect for females;
- A restricted exposure to coarse language and violence;
- A commitment to the welfare of children.

The policy outlined below is **non-negotiable** because its intent is to protect you from harm. Adherence to this policy is a condition of your continuing attendance at Kimberley College.

1. Students must hand their mobile phones in to their boat or faculty teachers at 8:45am each day. *(The only exception to this rule is for students with a diagnosed medical condition who require mobile phone access to monitor their health condition).*
2. Phones are **not** to be used or visible in the school grounds before or after school following their collection at 3pm.
3. Children who access coarse, violent or pornographic material on school buses will be disciplined. This could involve the confiscation of phones.
4. Children who bully other students via mobile phones or other technology will be held accountable through the College's anti-bullying policy and protocols.
5. It is strictly forbidden to post photographs of students in school uniform or other representations of the College online.
6. The bringing of laptops or tablets to school is limited to senior students and those with a confirmed learning need, and is conditional on adherence to the mobile phone policy; the exception is that the device is not handed in. However, the device can be used only with the permission and full knowledge of a teacher and screen content must be visible and easily accessed by said teacher at all times.
7. Students are encouraged to inform teachers when the above policy is violated and to provide evidence through printout and screenshots of poor behaviour online.

NOTE: Students are often assisted by parents to effect the immediate return of a mobile phone. This undermines school discipline and the implied message is that it is acceptable to break school rules in a deceitful and disobedient manner. We ask that parents assist College administration by supporting the above policies and aligning with school-based decisions in relation to these matters.