PORT LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL

MOBILE PHONE POLICY

♦ The school acknowledges that some students and staff may need to carry mobile phones to and from school.

♦ If students or staff members bring mobile phones to school they do so at their own risk.

♦ The school cannot accept responsibility for mobile phones that go missing nor does it have the resources to conduct investigations into misplaced or stolen mobile phones.

♦ All contact between parents and students during school time should be through the Front Office. It is absolutely essential that the school is aware of any changes to a student’s routine during the day so that it can carry out its duty of care. This includes having information about whether a student uses the bus to go home at the end of the day.

♦ In order to maximize the learning opportunities for every student, the following guidelines are to be followed by all staff and students:
  ▪ All mobile phones must be out of sight at all times
  ▪ All mobile phones are to be switched off during lesson time, study time and during any school activity or event
  ▪ The sending and receiving of text messages should not occur during lesson time, study time and during any school activity or event

♦ It is critical that all students are given the best learning environment in which to learn without interruptions created by mobile phone use in lesson and study time.

♦ If students are using mobile phones during lesson or not following the guidelines:
  1. They will be confiscated from students.
  2. The parent/care giver will be contacted.
  3. The mobile phone will be returned at the end of the day after the issues and concerns have been discussed with the parents/care givers.

Mobile Phones with cameras

• Mobile phones with cameras and screens create a new set of privacy issues for schools
  ▪ Because of the small size of the phones, images of people can be taken without their knowledge
  ▪ These images can be saved and then sent to other people
  ▪ It is possible to send these images to the Internet

• This creates the potential for gross invasion of privacy in areas around the school such as change-rooms and toilets

• In cases where there are gross invasions of privacy or where student images are used without permission (eg sent to another person on the Internet) there will be serious consequences.

• In some cases students could be expected to be suspended from school and in extreme circumstances could be excluded from school.

Mobile Phones with calculators

• Students may be given permission from subject teachers to use the calculator facility in class, unless a more appropriate calculator (eg scientific) is expected to be used.