Student use of Personal Electronic Devices

There have been significant changes in the availability and use of personal technologies in recent years. The use in the general community of mobile phones, digital cameras, portable music players and digital assistants etc has led to increased use of these devices by students.

The increased use of these devices presents a number of issues for the school. The two greatest concerns are the impact that these devices have on lesson instruction and the cost and inconvenience (to parents, students and staff) of damaged, lost or stolen items.

Cairns State High School’s personal electronic devices policy is designed to allow students to use personal devices in time that is designated as “free time”. The policy also emphasises the expectation that during “class time” students are to abide by the instructions of teaching staff and respect the need for an interruption free learning environment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When students CAN use personal electronic devices</th>
<th>When students CAN’T use personal electronic devices</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>When they are travelling to and from school</td>
<td>During class time (including form class, parades and assemblies).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Before the first bell at 8.40 am to signal the start of classes.</td>
<td>Between lessons as there is a clear expectation that students are to move directly from one class to another.</td>
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<tr>
<td>During morning tea and lunch breaks after having left their classrooms (as long as they are not in detention or involved in a teacher supervised activity)</td>
<td>During any detention</td>
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<tr>
<td>After leaving classrooms at the end of the day (3.00 pm)</td>
<td>During any out of school activity eg excursions, COEs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>When it compromises the integrity of the learning or assessment progress.</td>
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</table>

Consequences of Misuse

- Students who misuse devices according to this policy will be disciplined by staff.
  - Confiscation will occur if the student refuses to turn the device off when asked.
  - Refusal by students to co-operate will result in a referral to Administration.
  - Confiscated devices will be forwarded via the main office (counter) to the relevant year level administrator who will determine the appropriate course of action, e.g. communication with parents/guardians. Parents or caregivers are normally required to collect the device from the relevant year level administrator unless there are extenuating circumstances which, are determined by the year level administrator.

- Serious or repeated misuse will be treated as wilful or persistent disobedience and could lead to suspension from school.
  - 2nd time confiscated – student receives three afterschool detentions;
  - 3rd time confiscated – student is suspended.

- All personal technology devices must be used at all times within the law.

Breaches of the law will be referred to the police.

Security

Cairns State High School cannot take responsibility for the loss, damage or theft of any electronic devices that are brought onto the school grounds. The school would prefer that these devices were left at home, however, if students choose to bring them they must accept all risk associated with that decision.

As a condition of enrolment, on the Enrolment Agreement you will be signing to say you have read and agree to abide by this policy.