



Mobile Phone Policy

Revised November 2021

The ABC Board has passed a **Mobile Phone Policy** that prohibits the presence of mobile phones, on the school premises, the school bus and for all educational activities.

- *School Premises is defined as all the area inside the walls and gates of the school. School bus refers to all journeys on school buses.*
- *Educational Activities means all educational activities organised and coordinated by the school including off-site activities and trips.*

The intent of the policy is to promote the health and safety of our students. ABC its employees, and third party agents contracted by the school shall not be financially or legally responsible for lost, stolen or damaged phones that are smuggled onto school premises, on the school buses or taken on educational activities. **The responsibility for mobile phone possession at school, on school buses or during educational activities shall rest entirely with the parent/guardian and the student.**

Should students bring a phone onto the premises it will be removed from them and not returned until a written application to the Principal, by the parent, requesting the phone back has been handed in (the request may or may not be granted). The sanction for bringing the phone into the school premises, school bus or educational activity can include, but not limited to, detention, in-school suspension, and suspension, all of which are logged onto the student's permanent record. Illegal use of a cell phone is likely to be referred to law enforcement.

Having a phone on school premises, the school bus or during educational activities will lead to confiscation, and they will be held by the Principal.

1. **First offence:** the phone will be confiscated for the **term**, and only returned to the **student** following a written application to the Principal, from the parents. The student will receive a **verbal warning**.
2. **Second offence:** the phone will be confiscated for a **term**, and only returned to **parents** following a written application to the Principal, from the parents. The student will receive **detention**.
3. **Third offence:** the phone will be confiscated for the **year**, and only returned to **parents** following a written application to the Principal, from the parents. The student can be **suspended**. Further persistent breaches can be followed by longer suspensions and ultimately exclusion.

The school authorities reserve the right to administer an immediate suspension or exclusion, where a student brings a mobile phone to school and uses it inappropriately.

ABC staff have gone over all the rules for phone possession with all students. They have explained that they must not have possession on the school premises, school bus or during educational activities. They have also explained the typical types of disciplinary procedures or consequences that may be imposed for students who do not follow the expectations. Please go over all of the rules with your child before you send them to school with a phone.

Exceptions to the Rule:

Where there is an exceptional case (e.g. medical reason) a parent may apply directly to the Principal for permission for their child to have a phone on the school premises. Should the student abuse this exceptional privilege, it will be removed and parents will need to find alternative procedures.