



Dear parents/carers

Please see below for information regarding mobile phone use whilst at school. With the rollout of Chromebook's on Thursday to years 7-10 students at Gold Creek School, mobile phone usage is not permitted 'in buildings' unless directed by the class teacher for specific educational purposes. Any student who does not adhere to this 'in the building, in the bag' procedure will have their phone confiscated. Phones can be collected from the front office at the end of the school day by the student. Should students continue to breach this acceptable use parents will be contacted and school based behavior procedures will be implemented accordingly.

The school will not tolerate misuse of mobile devices as per the acceptable use policy. Should you wish to contact your child I request you call the school and leave a message. I thank you for your cooperation and support with this matter in improving learning environments for all students.

### ***Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices***

*This policy refers to mobile phones, smart phones, MP3 players, and similar items — 'personal electronic devices'.*

### **Rationale**

*The policy is based on respect, responsibility and consideration of others. The school understands that technology is part of the world of young people and that parents often support their children having mobile phones for safety reasons. Student responsibility for the appropriate use of personal electronic devices at school is required at all times. Listening to music, watching videos, playing games, accessing the internet, taking photos or videos and using mobile phones to talk or text during class disrupts teaching and learning.*

### **Guidelines and Expectations**

- *Courtesy and consideration is expected from students in their use of personal electronic devices at all times.*
- *Personal electronic devices may not be used in class, assembly or during class in the library unless they are being used for specific class work or for support of class activities with specific permission given by the teacher.*
- *Students at the Junior Site are to turn any personal electronic devices off and hand them into their classroom teacher for safe storage during school hours.*
- *Students at the Senior Site are to keep these devices in their bags when in the building, and switched off during class time.*
- *If Senior Site students must have personal electronic devices at school, they may use them at recess and lunch only.*
- *Senior Site students attempting to use these items during class will be asked to stop using them. Failure to do so will result in the item being confiscated for the rest of the day.*
- *Continued misuse and arguments will result in parents being contacted and being asked to keep the personal electronic device at home.*
- *Students may not film, photograph or video others without permission.*

- *Bullying or harassment through text messaging, photographing and videoing is unacceptable and will be dealt with through the School Behaviour Management Policy.*
- *Students may use the front office phone for emergencies.*
- *Parents are asked to support the school's policy by not contacting students on their mobile phone during class time. Messages and urgent contact can be made as usual through the front office.*
- *Personal electronic devices are brought to school at the student's own risk. The school will not accept responsibility for the loss, theft, or damage to these items which has occurred at school. This is consistent with the Department of Education and Community Services Circular Minute 8/00 entitled 'Liability for the Loss, Damage, or Theft of Students' Personal Property at School'.*
- *Student use of personal electronic devices with internet access must also follow the "Acceptable Internet Use" procedures.*

**Support**

*The Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association (AMTA) has a range of advice and tips on countering bullying for students and parents, consumer safety and affordability of mobile phones at: [www.amta.org.au](http://www.amta.org.au)*

Regards,  
Angela Spence  
Principal