

Student Mobile Phone Use at CSC in 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to advise you of a change in the way that we will be enforcing our policy regarding student mobile phone use in classes next year (2018). Until now we have permitted students to use their mobile phone as a learning device (e.g. as a calculator or to access the internet) if permission is provided by the teacher. However, this approach has often become difficult for teachers to implement and I have become increasingly concerned about the distraction of phones in classes and their impact on student learning and wellbeing. There has been significant recent research about the detrimental effects of students always being “switched on” to their smartphone and the detrimental effects of phones on student learning and wellbeing (see for example <https://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/the-athletes-way/201706/are-smartphones-making-us-stupid>).

Next year we will be insisting that students do not access their phones in class time. Students who have their phones out in class will be required to take their phone to the General Office where a receipt will be issued and the phone will be kept for the remainder of the day. Non-compliance with a request to take the phone to the office will result in more serious disciplinary consequences for the student.

As parents and carers, could we please ask for your co-operation in implementing our new mobile phone monitoring practices by:

- Discussing and reinforcing this new approach to implementing our mobile policy with your children before school commences next year
- Ensuring that your child has access to a calculator and, preferably, a computer throughout the school year given that mobile phones will no longer be permitted as a substitute for these devices.
- Not expecting your child to be contactable by you during class time. Urgent messages which need to be passed on to your child can be delivered by contacting the General Office on 54 791111.

Please let me know if you have any queries or concerns with this new policy. I thank each of our families in advance as we make this change to support our students’ learning and wellbeing.

Yours sincerely

Paul Frye

Principal

