

MOBILE DEVICES POLICY

Review – 10 October 2025



POLICY

Mobile Phones and Smart devices are part-and-parcel of life in the digital age. While we accept this is the case, much like the use of personal devices in workplaces, the use of mobile phones and smart watches etc needs to be carefully regulated. In school we do not wish these devices to interfere with student engagement and healthy interactions.

VISION

St Peter Claver College Riverview is collaboratively engaged with the Catholic community, charitable organisations, and individuals in the educational ministry of the Church in the Archdiocese of Brisbane and is called to:

Teach

We promote faith in Jesus Christ, teaching and learning about Jesus, the Gospel and the faith of the Catholic Christian community. Learning is lifelong, life-giving, and engages the whole person.

Challenge

Inspired by the Holy Spirit, we challenge those we educate to live in communion with God, others and the whole of creation in prayerful, sacramental, just, peaceful, inclusive and reconciling communities.

Transform

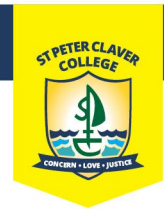
We educate for a transformed world in communion, by nurturing the gifts and potential of each person, enacting shared leadership, and exercising a preferential option for the poor and marginalised.

St Peter Claver College policies reflect its founding charisms and are based on the values of Concern, Love and Justice.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to explicitly direct when mobile phones and smart devices may be used and options for parents/guardians needing to contact their student. The policy has been based on research and consultation with members of the school community – students, families, and teachers.





General expectations:

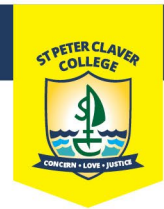
- Students are allowed to bring mobile phones to the College however these devices will be switched off and remain unseen throughout the school day. **This includes the school tuckshop and when making finance payments. Students should use cash, card or Qkr.**
- The College accepts no responsibility for the loss, theft, or damage to students' mobile phones/smart watches or devices/air pods or listening devices.
- **Please note:** Students who use a device to monitor health issues must speak to their Pastoral coordinator regarding this. This would be noted in their medical plan in first aid. Pastoral will give them a note to explain this.

EXPECTATIONS

St Peter Claver College does not permit the use of mobile phones (inclusive of smart watches and other technology that may be used as a mobile phone) during the school day. This is in alignment with many other schools in Brisbane Catholic Education and Education Queensland.

- Mobile phones need to be **switched off** and remain **unseen** throughout the school day.
- Students may only use their mobile phone before Home Class (8.30am) and after school (2.56pm). If they are seen with these items, they will be referred automatically to the RTC.
- This is inclusive of smart watches and other devices that may be used like a mobile phone e.g to receive/make calls, SMS, payments etc.
- Ongoing referrals to RTC for this issue will result in the pastoral process for mobile phones to be followed.
- Students who are required to use their mobile phone for a class activity will be asked by the classroom teacher to bring their device to that lesson. **The teacher will direct the use of these items** and their return to the student's locker. The teacher will advise all teaching staff of the use of phones in the lesson.
- Parents/Guardians who need to contact their student may contact the student desk and leave a message. Alternatively, parents/guardians could text their student with the message being able to be accessed **at the end of the school day**.
- Students who need to contact their parent/guardian during the school day, may do so through the student desk.
- In-phone cameras are not to be used at the College, except under the specific and clear direction of a teacher.
- Students who photograph or film other individuals without their consent and/or send harassing or threatening messages will face significant disciplinary consequences.
- Disciplinary action will be taken against any student who is found to use a mobile phone/smart device to cheat in exams or assessment items. Mobile phones/smart devices must not be brought into rooms during formal examinations.
- Air pods and other listening devices (connected/not connected) into a mobile phone or other device **may not be used** unless a **teacher has explicitly directed** students to do so for the purposes of class work. This includes transitioning between classes, in the playground and in lessons.





- The use of air pods/listening devices will be treated as a mobile phone breach and the student will be sent as an **automatic** to the RTC.
- Students who may be exempt from this rule will have been in consultation between Pastoral, the family and learning support or counselling. They will have the relevant pass for this. This is only given out by the Pastoral team.
- College staff will not spend inordinate amounts of time investigating loss/theft or damage to such items.

RESPONSIBLE THINKING CENTRE (RTC) IMPLICATIONS

This policy will be supported by RTC procedures in an explicit partnership to nurture the effective learning and teaching required by the College Educational Framework.

- Any breach of this policy particularly Point 2 in 'Expectations', will be dealt with as an **automatic** referral to RTC.
- Students in this situation will complete a single page RTC Plan. The classroom teacher and the student's Pastoral Leader will be notified of the student's arrival at RTC. The Plan will be negotiated and signed off by the teacher in the RTC. Students will then be issued with 'a return to class' time slip. If the student receives a subsequent referral to the RTC (for any reason) they will not return to the class for that lesson.

RESEARCH LINKS

<https://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/1471-2458-11-66/>
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4354213/>
<https://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/15/12/2692/htm>

