



Catherine McAuley Catholic College

Student Mobile Phone and Allied Device Policy

APPLICABLE TO	Staff, Students and Parents.
DOCUMENT OWNER	Principal
APPROVAL DATE	Term 4, 2023
APPROVED BY	Senior Leadership Team
COMMENCEMENT DATE	Updated Term 2, 2025
LAST REVIEW DATE/S	New policy
NEXT REVIEW DATE	12 months from implementation then 3 years following
RELATED DOCUMENTS	CMCC Student Mobile Phone Procedures Mobile Phones FAQ (Students) Mobile Phones FAQ (Parents and Carers) CMCC Anti-Bullying Policy

Purpose

This policy sets out the College's position on the student use and access to mobile phones and allied devices throughout the school day. It forms part of a suite of policies to provide a safe, inclusive and supportive environment for students.

Guidelines for developing and communicating student mobile phone procedures, strategies and practices relevant to the implementation of this policy is set out in the CMCC Student Mobile Phone and Allied Device Procedures document.

Policy Statement

Catherine McAuley Catholic College is committed to maintaining a safe, supportive, positive and engaged learning environment. The ubiquitous nature of mobile phones and allied devices has an impact on both the learning and social aspects of college life. As such, the College is committed to having in place policy and procedure to regulate mobile phone and allied device use to mitigate any potential negative consequences.

Definitions

Mobile Phones

A mobile phone is a wireless handheld device that allows users to make and receive calls as well as provide access to the internet and mobile applications.



Allied Devices

Allied Devices are hardware that connect wirelessly to mobile phones and allow access to phone functions. Most commonly, these come in the form of 'smart' watches and wearable technology.

Guiding Principles

This policy is based on the following principles:

1. Students will not have access to their mobile phone or allied devices from their arrival on campus until the end of the school day (3:00pm).
2. The College is adopting an 'off and away' approach where students are responsible for ensuring that their phone / allied device is not used or visible throughout the school day.
3. Students in Years 11 and 12 will have designated areas where they can access mobile devices in break times - Year 12 in the senior space and Year 11 in front of the library and Doyle Wing during breaks.
4. Communication to and from parents / carers will be maintained through the school Administration Office and Student Services.
5. Students will continue to have access to Compass through their laptop.
6. On an individual basis, request for exemption / modification of this procedure will be considered for students with a specific medical / pressing need.
7. Students who do not comply with this policy will have their phone confiscated and returned at the end of the school day. In situations where there are repeated infractions of the school policy students' phones will be required to be handed in each day for a period of 10 days. Should there be repeated breaches of the College policy the students' phone will be retained until a parent / carer is able to collect the mobile phone / allied device. Further details can be found in the associated procedure document.

Responsibilities

The following information sets out levels of responsibility for all involved in ensuring compliance with this policy.

Principal

The College Principal will ensure that:

- The College has procedures and guidelines in place to manage students use of mobile phones and allied devices during school hours.
- Ensure college staff are aware of policy and procedures and support its consistent application.
- Ensure the availability of additional supports to students who require them.

Staff

College staff have the responsibility to:

- Understand the College policy and procedures relating to student mobile phone / allied device use.
- Support the College and colleagues by consistently and fairly applying the identified procedures.
- Seek clarification and offer recommendations to improve this policy and associated procedures.



Students

Students have the responsibility to:

- Follow the College Mobile Phone and Allied Device Policy and Procedures.
- Understand that allied devices cannot be actively used during class or playground times and all mobile phone restrictions apply to these devices too. They are not permitted to be worn in assessments or exams.
- Seek clarification from staff members as needed.
- Comply with all directions from staff members in accordance with the application of this policy.

Parents / Carers

Parent/carers have the responsibility to:

- Work collaboratively with the College to promote responsible phone use.
- Ensure that their actions, including contacting students during the school day, align with the College's policy and procedures.
- Support the College and college staff to assist in the consistent application of this policy and associated procedures.
- Seek clarification and offer recommendations to improve this policy and associated procedures.
- Inform and work with the College where exceptional health matters may need to be considered with relation to mobile phones and allied devices.

Budget

An allocation to cover the costs associated with the implementation of this policy is made annually by the College. This may include the provision of appropriate staff and professional development, resources and external supports that will assist in the implementation and ongoing maintenance of this policy.

Review

This policy is managed by the College and will be reviewed 12 months from implementation and then every three years following to maintain currency and effectiveness. If there are any in the College community who would like to recommend improvements to this policy, please e-mail your suggestions to the College Principal.