

# Mobile Phone – Acceptable Use Policy

Ratified by the BOM June 30<sup>th</sup> 2016



In Good Counsel College we recognise that mobile phones are a part of modern lifestyle and culture. We also acknowledge that they can be used positively to enhance learning. Teachers may on occasion permit the appropriate use of mobile phones in pursuit of learning in classrooms and other learning settings within the school or as part of homework assignment/project work.

However, for educational and social reasons, and as part of our anti-bullying strategy, we must have in place an acceptable mobile phone use policy which limits/restricts the use of phones during the school day.

## **Acceptable use policy**

- Except where directed by a teacher that phones may be switched on for a period of time during that teacher's class, student mobile phones must remain **switched off**, not merely on silent, **from 9.00am until 4.00pm.**
  - Any student who wishes to contact parents/guardians or who needs to make an urgent call during these times will be facilitated in doing so at the school office.
  - Any parents/guardians who wish to contact their son during these times may contact the school office.
  - Any student with a diagnosed medical condition requiring access to a mobile phone may apply for a derogation from this policy.
- Any student found to be in breach of this rule will be asked to switch off his phone, place it in an envelope which will be sealed in his presence and stored in the school office for collection by parent/guardian. If not collected by parent/guardian, phone will be returned to the student after a minimum of one week.
- As per school's Code of Behaviour, refusal to hand over a mobile phone where teacher has deemed it has been used inappropriately, will result in suspension