

St Margaret's College Mobile Phone Code

St Margaret's College is committed to valuing and protecting the school day as a time for students to engage with teaching and learning, and to encourage our girls to be actively involved with each other and in the wider life of the school.

With this as our desired outcome, there are now controls in place around the use of mobile phones during the school day so these devices do not interfere with school life.

- These controls are to be observed between 8.25am and 3.30pm on school days, as well as special school events (e.g. Founders Day, Sunday Chapel services, Prizegiving)
- Mobile phones are to be kept at home, in lockers or in school bags, not carried on the person (i.e. not in pockets or blazers)
- Phones brought to school will be set to flight mode or on silent (with no vibration) during the school day
- Mobile phones are not to be visible during the school day, unless by a specific request or permission from a teacher
- Year 12 and 13 students may use their mobile phones while in their Common Rooms only

If there is an urgent need for communication that cannot wait until the end of the school day, students and parents can make contact through the school office.

Should a mobile phone be visible during the school day, in contravention of these guidelines, there will be the following consequences.

First time, the phone will be confiscated, labeled and held in the office until the end of the school day. Parents will be emailed to advise of the student breach and notified that a further infraction will require that they collect the phone. At the end of the school day, the phone may be collected by the student, though it will be handed back to Reception the following day and held safely there for the day.

Second time, the phone will be confiscated, labeled and held in the office. Parents will be called to advise of the student's second breach and asked to collect the phone at their soonest convenience. For our boarding families, a member of the Boarding House team can collect it at the end of the day. Phones will stay at home or be handed back to Reception for the following two days for students to collect at the end of each day.

Third time, further consequences will be applied should a student be found to be in breach of these mobile phone restrictions a third time, this will include afternoon detention, and a meeting with the student, her parents (by phone with boarding parents), and a pastoral senior leader.

There are many social, emotional and academic benefits to be realised for our girls from greater controls around mobile phone access during the school day, so we look forward to the support of our community to establish these expectations at St Margaret's College.