



The increased ownership of personal digital devices – such as mobile phones, iPads and iPods – requires that Flinders Christian Community College students and parents take steps to ensure that personal digital devices are used responsibly. Personal digital devices include, but are not restricted to mobile phones, iPads, PDAs, MP3 players (eg: iPods®), or similar.

Responsibility

Personal digital devices are usually provided by parents for the student. The College requests parental support for Flinders Christian Community College Personal Digital Devices Policy to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all students. Parents are encouraged to attend Cybersafety Information sessions conducted by the College, read College news sheet articles related to Cybersafety and read Cybersafety updates posted to <http://our.flinders.vic.edu.au>.

It is the responsibility of students who bring personal digital devices onto school premises and to school related activities to adhere to the guidelines outlined in this policy. The school provides wireless access to the internet. Students are encouraged to use the College wireless network rather than a USB modem or other wireless connection to ensure cyber safety.

Students shall be personally responsible for the security of digital devices brought to school. If devices are loaned to or borrowed and misused by non-owners, device owners and device borrowers are jointly responsible for the misuse or policy violations.

Guidelines

1. Personal Digital Devices are permitted for travel to and from school or excursions.
2. Personal digital devices (other than mobile phone use for calls or texting) may be used as a resource where permitted by the Subject Teacher in the classroom, on camps and excursions and when travelling to and from school.

3. Mobile phones should be turned off during class time, assembly and chapels unless permission is granted by the teacher in charge.
4. Use of personal digital devices (other than mobile phone use for calls or texting) must be maintained at a safe volume which is inaudible to others. Ear pieces may not be shared between two students.
5. Use of mobile phones for calls or texting may only occur before or after school or when permission has been granted by a Staff Member for a specific purpose. It is not appropriate for students to be phoning or messaging either within the classroom or outside the classroom during the school day. If parents need to be contacted from school for reasons such as illness, students should report to Student Reception.
6. The possession of Personal Digital Devices within the school grounds remains at the discretion of Flinders Christian Community College. Personal digital devices will be confiscated should the above guidelines be ignored. If a device is confiscated it will need to be collected by the student's Parent/Guardian from the Year Level Coordinator.

Flinders Christian Community College does not accept responsibility for replacing or investigating lost, stolen or damaged digital devices. Students should take personal responsibility for the safe keeping of all items of value in a locked locker when not in use.

It is also noted that digital devices have in some cases become a means of harassment or invasion of privacy. Digital devices must not be used in a way that threatens, humiliates, harasses, or intimidates school-related individuals, including students, employees, and visitors, or violates local, state, or federal law.

Unwanted text messaging, phone calls or sending photos should never occur.

If a student violates this policy, his/her digital device may be confiscated and disciplinary action taken. The digital device will be released/returned to the student's parent or guardian after the student has complied with any other disciplinary consequence that is imposed.