

## APPENDIX D

# Downlands College

## Boarding Mobile Phone Policy

### Rationale

Students are permitted to have mobile phones at Downlands, but there are restrictions. Our Mobile Phone Policy aims to ensure the general well-being of all of our students by providing good conditions for study and sleep. We ask that parents and students abide by some simple rules and that all students fully understand the issues associated with owning a mobile phone.

### Values:

Downlands nurtures a strong religious spirit, marked by the Gospel values of Faith and Community. The College motto is **Fortes in Fide Strong in Faith**. Our Faith is based on a belief in and commitment to a loving God, while Community is that sense of identity which unites students, families and staff in Christ, as a special part of the family of God. We value truth, learning and respect for the individual as essential features of the education process. In the search for truth, Downlands encourages students to integrate faith with life (*Philosophy and Aims of Downlands College*).

### Policy:

1. The Boarding School considers the monitored use of mobile phones a positive means of communication with family and friends.
2. Boarders may use mobile phones in free time after school and in the evening.
3. On Study Nights (Mondays to Thursdays) parents of boarders may phone between:
 

All Year Levels:	3:00pm – 5:45pm
Years 7, 8 and 9:	8:00pm – 8:45pm
Year 10:	8:15pm – 9:15pm
Years 11 and 12:	8:15pm – 10:00pm
4. When purchasing a phone for a student, consideration should be given to the type of phone which would be appropriate to a boarding school environment.
  - Phones with unlimited call plans are discouraged.
  - Expensive phones that cannot be properly secured are discouraged.
5. The school takes no responsibility for the loss, damage or theft of a boarder's mobile phone.
6. All boarders who bring a mobile phone to school will be asked to sign the **Downlands College Boarding Mobile Phone Acceptable Use Policy Contract (Appendix E)**. The understanding will be that they will have their phone confiscated if they breach any of the conditions in the contract.

## APPENDIX D (continued)

Key conditions include:

### Mobile Phones:

- May not be used in study times and must be turned off.
- May not be used after lights out.
- May not be used in the Dining Room.
- May not be used during meetings or during Mass.
- May not be used to bully another person.
- May not be used if they breach the privacy of another person.
- May not be used for inappropriate email or internet.
- May not be used to bring images of pornography or any other pictures to school that are at odds with our College Ethos and spirit.
- May not be used to photograph, record or video another student or staff member without permission.
- May not be used to send inappropriate images to others.
- May not video, record or photograph a boarding activity without permission.
- In the event that staff feel that the mobile phone has been used in breach of the policy, staff members may examine any files or records on the phone.
- Staff must be provided with the boarder's mobile number and IMEI number.
- Boarding staff need to be notified if there is a change to a student's phone number or IMEI number.
- Students may not use another student's mobile phone without permission of the owner.
- The understanding that phone chargers may be tested for electrical safety.
- The understanding that Boarding staff will confiscate a student's mobile phone if it is determined that there has been a breach of this policy.

APPENDIX E

# Downlands College Boarding Mobile Phone Acceptable Use Policy Contract

1. I have read and understood the above information about appropriate use of mobile phones at Downlands College and I understand that this form will be kept on file at the school and that the details may be used (and shared with a third party, if necessary) to assist in identifying a phone should the need arise (eg if lost, or if the phone is being used inappropriately).
2. I give my child permission to have a mobile phone at school and understand that my child will be responsible for ensuring that the mobile phone is used appropriately and correctly while the student is at school, as outlined in this document.
3. I give permission for College staff members, in the presence of the Head of Boarding and in consultation with me, to access my son or daughter’s mobile phone to examine any files or records on the phone if staff feel that the Mobile Phone Policy has been breached. The student will be obliged to provide his / her passcode.
4. I also accept that the College will administer the sanctions as described above in the case of unacceptable or inappropriate use of the phone.

Parent / Guardian name: .....

Please Print

Parent / Guardian signature: .....

Date: .....

Student name: .....

Please Print

Mobile phone model: .....

IMEI : .....

IMEI – International Mobile Equipment Identity: Unique number 15 or 17 digits found under the battery or in most phones by pressing \*#06# on your phone

Mobile phone number: .....

Student signature: .....

Date: .....