



Archbishop Beck Catholic College

Mobile Phone Policy

Policy

This policy outlines the appropriate use of **mobile phones and visible ear pieces** at Archbishop Beck Catholic College.

Purpose

The widespread ownership of **mobile phones and visible ear pieces** among young people requires that college administrators, teachers, students, parents and carers take steps to ensure that mobile phones are used responsibly. This 'Acceptable Use Policy' is designed to ensure that potential issues involving mobile phones can be clearly identified and addressed, ensuring the benefits that mobile phones provide (such as increased safety) can continue to be enjoyed by our students.

Rationale

The staff and Governors of Archbishop Beck Catholic College recognise that many students and their families own a mobile phone. We also recognise that some parents / carers request that their child brings a mobile phone to college for safety and security reasons on the way to and returning from college. Our core business of teaching and learning needs to be conducted in an environment free from unnecessary distractions or disruptions. **Therefore the college strongly discourages the bringing of mobile phones to college by students, although as previously stated we accept that parents may wish for health and safety reasons that their child is in possession of a mobile phone on the way to and returning from college.** Therefore the college is prepared to allow mobile phones on the premises but only within the parameters of the policy as stated below.

Parents / carers are reminded that in cases of emergency, the college office remains a vital and appropriate point of contact and can ensure your child is reached quickly and assisted in any relevant way.

Students

There are no reasons why a student needs to use a mobile phone during the college day. Students are advised that if in exceptional circumstances they bring a mobile phone onto the college premises they should be switched off on arrival at the college entrance and placed out of sight in their college bag. **While on the college premises mobile phones are not to be used by students.** Should a student be seen with a mobile phone on the college premises, the phone will be confiscated by the member of staff concerned or referred to a senior member of staff to confiscate the phone. If a student refuses to hand their phone to the member of staff this will be treated as a serious breach of college discipline and will be dealt with accordingly.

Sanctions

Students who are seen with a mobile phone or visible ear pieces on the college premises will have their phone / ear pieces confiscated as outlined previously in this policy.

On the first infringement:

The mobile phone would be confiscated by the teacher concerned or a senior member of staff and taken to a secure place within 'student services'. The college will inform the student's parent / carer that their child's phone has been confiscated. Students will have their mobile phones returned to them at the end of the college day after completing a 30 minute detention with a member of the pastoral team.

On the second infringement:

The mobile phone would be confiscated by the teacher concerned or a senior member of staff and taken to a secure place within student services. The college will inform the student's parent / carer that their child's phone has been confiscated. The parent / carer should then contact the college to make an appointment to collect the phone from a member of the year pastoral team.

Any further infringement:

Will result in the student not being able to enter the college with a mobile phone in their possession.

Exemptions

Sixth Form students are allowed to bring their mobile phones into the college but they may only be used in the Sixth Form Study area. Students with medical conditions who require constant use of their mobile phone will be allowed to keep the phone switched on once medical evidence has been provided.