Mount Barker Community College

7 – 12 Mobile Devices Policy
‘Abuse it – YOU lose it’

Rationale
Mount Barker Community College prides itself on responding to a rapidly changing world in a manner that seeks the best outcomes for our students. As technology has improved so have the educational advantages of embracing this technology. We acknowledge the commonality of personal portable devices and their importance to many students. We believe that it is a responsibility we share with parents, to teach our children to use the technology responsibly, to create a positive, safe and respectful learning environment in our school. This policy applies to any device with phone, wireless or internet connectivity.

Policy
Students in years 7 – 12 are allowed to bring personally owned mobile devices to school with the following conditions and understandings being paramount to their use and in conjunction with the Internet Users Agreement and Guidelines Policy:

1. Mount Barker Community College accepts no responsibility for the loss or damage of a student’s portable device. Students are solely responsible for the care of their devices and staff will not accept care for such items.
2. Parents/caregivers decide whether the device is allowed to be brought to school. Mobile devices enhance but are not required for a successful education. The College will not request that the devices are required to be brought to school.
3. The College is not responsible for the content on a mobile device. Parent/caregivers are responsible for the content, which should be age appropriate and legal. If a staff member suspects there is inappropriate material on the device then the Associate Principal will examine the device.
4. Portable devices can be used in the classroom but only on the explicit direction of a teacher and students will respect such directions. (ie listing homework/electronic calendar, taking photographs of an experiment/model or whiteboard notes, playing music for dance or music classes etc.) There is no expectation that all students will be required to have a portable device. Students without electronic devices will not be disadvantaged but will be encouraged to use an alternative, such as using a diary instead of an electronic calendar to record homework.
5. Students will respect teacher direction on use of devices in class or they will be required to surrender the devices as per the college behaviour policy. Devices will be handed to the front office and repeat offenders will need a parent/caregiver to collect the device from the front office.
6. Students are to ask permission to take photographs and in their use of electronic devices they must respect other students, staff and the reputation of the College.
7. If the student is found to be using the mobile device (phone/ipod/ipad etc) in a manner that is harmful or disruptive to other members of the College community or to the reputation of the College, then the Behaviour Management Policy will come into play. Students may be suspended for up to 10 days for serious breaches.
8. Students are expected to be mindful of the expense of downloading and confine themselves to downloading school-related material if connected to the college wi-fi. For instance, this excludes movies, songs and updates, which are personal responsibilities and not related to school.
9. Parents/caregivers and students are welcome to make contact via these devices, but only during recess and lunch breaks. Parents/caregivers should ring 9851 3400 if they wish to make contact during lesson times.
10. Students are not permitted to use mobile phones during an emergency or evacuation – unless explicitly directed to by staff.