



HOLY CROSS CONVENT SCHOOL

Holistic Primary Education For Boys & Girls

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UMALUSI accredited NPO 202-196 PBO 930011798 School Registration Number 0103000810

CELL PHONE POLICY

Although the school recognizes that cell phones and other Internet-enabled devices are part of everyday life, we also are aware that such devices are capable of a lot more than contacting parents/guardians at the end of the day. The school has, therefore, adopted a stance that cell phones should not be brought to school for the reasons outlined below:

1. Cell phones may be lost, stolen or damaged.
2. Cell phones may be a distraction during teaching and learning.
3. Cell phones may provide a means of bullying or intimidation.
4. Cell phones have risks associated with sharing of images and posting of digital images on social media platforms.
5. Cell phones place children at unnecessary risk of being mugged when walking home or using public transport.

Should a parent/guardian feel it absolutely necessary for their child to bring a cell phone to school:

the parent/guardian must write an official request to the principal requesting permission for their child to bring a cell phone to school. The letter must outline clearly the reasons why the child needs to bring a cell phone to school; and must be signed and dated. The cell phone may only be brought to school once the principal has granted permission.

Once permission has been granted, the following procedure must be followed:

1. On arrival at school, the child must go to the administration office and hand in the phone which must be clearly marked with the child's name and be switched off.
2. Once handed in, the phone will be locked in a cupboard in the administration office
3. At the end of the day (before 3.30pm), the child must collect the phone from the administration office. This must be done when the child leaves the premises, as the cell phone may not be taken to extra-murals.

Note:

- The school will not be held accountable for the loss or damage of any cell phone.
- Should a child be found at school with a cell phone without the required permission, the cell phone will be confiscated. The parent/guardian will be called to fetch the cell phone. The cell phone will not be returned to the child.

- The school is committed to educating our learners about cyber safety and cyber bullying. However, due to the school having a no cell phone at school policy, they will not get directly involved with any instances of inappropriate texting between learners.
- Learners may not bring cell phones to school on special occasions nor on school outings unless permission has been granted by the principal.
- This policy also applies to smart watches which have the capabilities of connecting to the Internet or to take photos.

Review:

This policy will be renewed regularly.

Reviewed:

September 2024