

PATRICIAN SECONDARY SCHOOL

PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES (P.E.D'S.)

Personal Electronic Devices includes mobile phones, mp3, iPods, iPads or any device capable of recording or sending messages)

In keeping with our Mission Statement the following policy is founded on maintaining a safe, nurturing environment where the personal dignity and rights of the school community are preserved and the reputation of the school is safe guarded. The school supports the use of new technology but will not tolerate any abuse of this technology. The misuse of a Personal Electronic Device in class or in recreation time could constitute a breach of safety and security for the pupils, teachers, ancillary staff and others within the school, as well as having the potential to cause undue anxiety for parents or other recipients of relayed conversations or messages.

For purposes of this procedural directive, "personal electronic device" means any device that a student is in possession of which electronically communicates, sends, receives, stores, reproduces or displays voice and/or text communication or data. These include, but are not limited to mobile phones, music/media players, gaming devices, Tablets and laptop computers.

Section one

Mobile phones and personal Electronic Devices must be switched off and not visible at the following time except with the express permission of a teacher.

08.55am to 01.15pm

02.00pm to 04.00pm

04.30pm to 07.30pm if you are on the roll for study.

Breaches of the above times will result in the following:

First occasion

The P.E.D. will be confiscated and must be collected by the parent or Guardian of the student. Failure to hand over the phone is a category C offence and the student may face suspension.

Second occasion

The P.E.D. will be confiscated and must be collected by the parent or Guardian of the student. The student also receives 4 points and a detention. Failure to hand over the phone is a category C offence and the student may face suspension

Third occasion

The P.E.D. will be confiscated and must be collected by the parent of guardian of the student. The student faces suspension and the privilege of having the phone at school is removed. Failure to hand over the phone is a category C offence and the student may face suspension.

Section 2

This refers to

- 2.1 Taking of pictures, recording or videoing are strictly forbidden on school grounds at any time or on any school related activity without the express permission of a teacher.
- 2.2 Making abusive or threatening calls or sending or posting messages or texts of this nature to any member of the school community at any time is strictly forbidden.
 - a. The student who possesses a personal electronic device shall be solely responsible for its care.
 - b. Student possession of personal electronic devices on all school grounds, including athletic fields, and school buses, at school-sponsored activities and while the student is under the supervision and control of teachers shall be permitted. All students may use these devices on school grounds before school begins and after school ends.
 - c. These devices shall be kept out of sight and powered off during the school day and during any school-sponsored activity meeting or practice held on Patrician School property. The requirement that personal electronic devices be turned off may not apply in the following circumstances when the student obtains prior approval from the principal or his/her designee:
 1. The student has a special medical circumstance for self or family member.
 2. The student is using the device for an educational or instructional purpose with the teacher's permission and supervision.
 - d. Student use of personal electronic devices shall be strictly prohibited in areas including, but not limited to locker rooms, classrooms & bathrooms
 - e. Students shall not use personal electronic device on school property or at a school sponsored activity to access and/or view internet websites that are otherwise blocked to students at school. blocked sites include, but are not limited to, social networking sites.
 - f. Student use of personal electronic devices that disrupt the instructional day may result in disciplinary action and/or confiscation of the personal electronic device as outlined in section one. When a personal electronic device is confiscated, it shall only be released and/or returned to the student's parent/legal guardian. It is the student's parent/legal guardian's responsibility to retrieve the device according to the school procedures.

The board management has ratified the policy on Personal Electronic Devices.

In relation to Section 2 of the Policy the Board directs the Principal to do the following.

1. Suspend the student for a minimum of three days.
2. The Student and his parents must be made aware of the contents of the Statement below and the parents sign it.
3. If the Principal, having considered all aspects of the situation including the views of the victim and his family, may feel the matter should be brought to the Board's attention immediately then he is directed to do so.

Statement

In keeping with our Mission Policy the following policy is founded on maintaining a safe, nurturing environment where the personal dignity and rights of the school community are preserved and the reputation of the school is safe guarded. The school supports the use of new technology but will not tolerate any abuse of this technology.

Section Two

- 2.1 Taking pictures, recording or videoing are strictly forbidden on school grounds at any time without express permission of a teacher.
- 2.2 Making abusive or threatening calls or sending texts of this nature to any member of the school community at any time is strictly forbidden.

Any student contravening section 2.1 or 2.2 will be deemed breach of the schools Code of Discipline and will be dealt with accordingly.

Date:

I _____ of Class _____

have been in breach of **Section 2** of the Personal Electronic Device policy.

I am aware as per Section 2 of the Personal Electronic Device Policy that if this occurs a second time I face permanent exclusion from the school.

Student's Signature: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Principal's Signature: _____

This policy was reviewed by the school community in the school year 2013/14 and ratified by the Board of management on 8th May 2014.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Bro Cormac Commings, Chairperson of the Board of Management.