

DELTA PARK SCHOOL

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HIGH SCHOOL - CELL PHONE POLICY

1. General

- 1.1 This Policy was compiled by the SGB in accordance with the following legislation and related School Policies.
- Delta Park School Learner Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures.
 - Regulations for Safety measures at Public Schools, GN 1040, GG 22754 of October 2001
 - National Policy on the Conduct, Administration and Management of the National Senior Certificate, General Notice 30048 of 6 July 2006.
- 1.2 The School acknowledges that a cell phone is a useful instrument during emergencies and that it could also be utilized as part of e-learning as an effective educational resource by teachers and learners in a school. However, the discipline problems caused by learners using cell phones at school make the implementation of stringent rules a necessity.
- 1.3 The use of a cell phone at school is seen as a concession and not a right.
- 1.4 Primary school learners are discouraged from bringing cell phones to school.

2. The following rules are to be observed by all learners:

- 2.1 Cell phones must be switched off during formal teaching times, substitution and changing of classes. No cell phone may be on silent or vibrate in class.
- 2.2 Learners may only switch on cell phones in class with the permission of the staff member.
- 2.3 No messages may be sent or received during formal teaching time or substitution via any form of social media (e.g. BBM, Whatsapp, Facebook and / or any other similar protocol).
- 2.4 No learner may use the cell phone of another learner.
- 2.5 In the event that photo's / video's are taken in class for educational purposes, these photo's / video's may NOT be distributed on any form of social media without the consent of the parties photographed or videoed.
- 2.6 Learners are allowed to bring a cell phone into an examination venue, provided it is switched off, labelled (name & grade) and in an envelope. These cell phones must be placed in an allocated box and will be returned to the learner after the completion of an exam paper and when they leave the venue.
- 2.7 Cell phones may only be used to contact parents during school hours on the instruction of a staff member.
- 2.8 Learners may not have electronic devices such cell phones, iPods, earphones and smart watches etc. in any venue during class time, test periods and exam venues.

3. Safety and security

- 3.1 A learner who brings a cell phone to school does so at his/her own risk.
- 3.2 Stolen cell phones should be reported immediately to a staff member.
- 3.3 A full scale investigation or search will only be conducted at the discretion of the Departmental Head, Deputy Principal and Principal.
- 3.4 The School does not accept any liability for any losses that may occur as a result of theft or damage to a cell phone.
- 3.5 It is up to the victim to report/press charges at the police station.
- 3.6 No photos whatsoever of any person or personal part thereof may be taken or distributed.
- 3.7 No recordings or photos may be made or taken of any lessons without prior permission of the staff member.
- 3.8 The recording and or distribution of any photos, video or sound clips of any situation, staged or otherwise, is forbidden unless for educational reasons and with the permission of a staff member.

4. Disciplinary action

- 4.1 Breach of this code of conduct (with regards to cell phones) by any *learner*, will result in the cell phone being confiscated and handed to the principal.
 - 4.1.1 Confiscated cell phones (of learners) must be tagged and sealed in an envelope and handed to the Departmental Head, Deputy Principal or Principal and will be locked in the strong room of the school.
 - 4.1.2 Confiscated cell phones will only be handed back by the Departmental Head, Deputy Principal or Principal to the parents/guardians of the offender.
 - 4.1.3 Parents/guardians will have to sign that the cell phone was returned to them.
 - 4.1.4 Second time offenders will have their cell phones confiscated until the end of the term.
 - 4.1.5 Repeat offenders could, at the discretion of management, face further disciplinary steps which could include a disciplinary hearing.
- 4.2 The possession and/or involvement in of a stolen cell phone will result in immediate disciplinary action being instituted against the offender.

This Policy was signed at Delta Park School, Blairgowrie on the 11th day of February 2021.

**Dr JJ Britz
PRINCIPAL**

**Ms L Rossel
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**