



# WAITAKI BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL

"Inspiring young men of outstanding character"

## Mobile phone and digital devices procedure.

Waitaki Boys' High School is committed to

- valuing and protecting the school day as a time for students to engage with teaching and learning.
- encouraging our students to be actively involved with each other and in the wider life of school.
- developing the self-confidence and resilience required to minimise dependency upon social media.
- fostering face to face connection and a sense of belonging in our school community.
- keeping our students safe from cyber-bullying.

### Guidelines

With these as our desired outcomes, there are now guidelines in place around the use of mobile phones and other digital devices (excluding only laptops, tablets, chromebooks etc that are used for educational purposes during class time as per BYOD) by Waitaki Boys' students during the school day so these devices do not interfere with school life. These guidelines are to be observed between 8.40am (9.00am on a Wednesday) and 3.05pm on school days as well as special school events outside of school hours (such as open night, prizegivings etc). This procedure is an addition to our "Acceptable computer use policy, student-parent contract".

- Mobile phones and digital devices are to be kept at home, or in school bags, or left at the school office. They are not to be carried on the person (ie not in pockets, blazers or jackets). They are not to be visible during the school day.
- Mobile phones brought to school will be set on to flight mode or on silent (with no vibration) during the school day. All smart watches are considered an extension of a smart phone, and must be set to flight mode, silent or do not disturb for the hours specified above.
- If you wish to contact your son during the hours specified above please contact the school office who will get your message to him.
- Exceptions will be considered on a case by case basis for medical reasons only and must be referred to the Rector.

### Consequences

First time – On the first occasion where a student fails to comply with the above, the mobile phone and/or digital device will be confiscated for the rest of the school day and kept securely in the school office. This includes any sim cards that are part of the mobile phone. This may be collected by the student at the end of the school day.

Second time – On the second occasion, the mobile phone and/or digital device will be confiscated for the rest of the school day, kept securely in the school office and may only be collected by a parent/caregiver after the school day has finished up until 4.30pm or at the closest practicable time.

The office will contact you to inform you this has happened. (For our boarding families a member of the boarding house team can collect it at the end of the day).

Third time – On the third occasion, the mobile phone and/or digital device will be confiscated for the rest of the school day, kept securely in the school office, and may only be collected by a parent/caregiver after the school day has finished up until 4.30pm or at the closest practicable time. The office will contact you to inform you this has happened. The student now forfeits the right to bring the mobile phone and/or digital device to school for the rest of the year.

Subsequently any further breaches will be deemed as gross misconduct for the purpose of a stand down or suspension under the Education Act 1989.

## Notes

- If a staff member has to confiscate a mobile phone and/or digital device during the hours of the school day they will store the mobile phone and/or digital device in a snap lock bag with a form stating the students name and the time of confiscation. The student will be given a copy of this form to take to the school office at the end of the day. The staff member will take the mobile phone and/or digital device to the school office at their earliest possible convenience.
- Whilst the school will undertake to provide reasonable security at all times, it accepts **NO LIABILITY** for confiscated mobile phones and/or digital devices that go missing or are damaged.
- Any student using a mobile phone and/or digital device to photograph or video staff members or students engaged in inappropriate behaviours at school (eg a fight) or out of school whilst in school uniform, will be deemed as gross misconduct for the purposes of a stand down or suspension under the Education Act 1989.
- The school reserves the right to ban a student from bringing a mobile phone and/or digital device to school in the event of such misuse. The school also reserves the right to contact the police if a message threatens or images may harm the victim or bring the school into disrepute.

The school believes there are many social, emotional and academic benefits to be gained for our students from these restrictions on mobile phone and/or digital device use during the school day. We look forward to the continuing support of our wider community in establishing these expectations at Waitaki Boys' High School.