



MAMRE ANGLICAN SCHOOL

PEDS POLICY

*Updated December 2018
Review 2019*

Rationale

In recent years, the use of technology in our society has grown tremendously and for most young people it is a vital connection to the world around them. MAS recognises the potential value of technology in shaping our students' educational experiences and the new avenues it can offer for learning. Personal electronic devices have the capacity to enhance student productivity, extend the range of learning opportunities and broaden engagement with the digital world when used in the proper context.

PEDs can provide a gateway to innovative ways of engaging with course content, increase intellectual stimulation and build confidence. They can also help accommodate individual learning styles and increase autonomy if used appropriately in the School environment. However, MAS also recognises the capacity that these devices have for misuse and that they can impact others in a detrimental manner.

It is recommended that parents insure any devices brought to school, as the School will not be held liable for loss, damage or theft.

Definition

Personal Electronic Devices include, but are not limited to, the following technologies: mobile phones, portable internet devices (e.g. iPads, and any notepad android device Blackberry, iTouch, iPhone), portable entertainment systems (e.g. iPods, MP3 and MP4), photo, video and/or audio devices, notebooks, laptops, netbooks and any other wireless technology.

Storage and acceptable use of PEDs

- Students are responsible for the security of their PEDs while at school
- Students may carry their PED with them. However, it is recommended that all PEDs are stored in the locker for safety when not in use during the school day.
- Mobile phones functionality must be turned off during class where possible
- PEDs must not be used during school time without permission from a teacher
- Students who are undertaking private study, may use a PED for educational purposes and to facilitate study, but must ensure that they are not distracting other students. Permission must be sought from a teacher for usage of a PED.
- Students may use PEDs appropriately and responsibly during the school day with permission
- When permission for use is granted within a classroom or during other school activity, it should be understood that use is limited to that particular classroom or event and should be considered a privilege. The use of devices will be subject to teacher discretion at all times.
- PEDs must not be used to harass, or victimize other students or staff. PEDs must not be used to violate a person's right to privacy or to view or transmit any form of inappropriate material.
- Pupils must not use phones to ring or text anyone unless given permission to do so by a member of the staff.
- Pupils wishing to phone / text home must do so from the Student Reception
- Parents wishing to speak to their child must phone the office
- Mamre Staff may check student PEDs, storage devices, internet usage logs, email and other communication mediums at any time to ensure students are complying with the spirit and intent of these policies.

Accessing the internet via PEDs

Internet access is currently available via MAS, and logins will be provided upon receipt of the signed slip below. Individuals may use their own 3G/4G connections where appropriate at their own cost.

- Students are not to deliberately access inappropriate websites.
 - If this should happen by accident, the following procedure **MUST** be followed immediately:
 - Minimise the site immediately – without communicating to other students.
 - Inform the nearest teacher. (The site will then be blocked).
- Students must not post photographs, personal information or refer in any way to members of the MAS community (staff, students and parents) on the Internet without the permission of the School. This includes personal 'blogs', social media and networking sites as well as websites.
- Students must not refer to the school in any way, nor post images of themselves or others in school uniform on the Internet unless on a school sanctioned website or with the permission of the School.
- Students are to be conservative with internet download/upload and only download/upload data associated with their schoolwork.

Disciplinary Action

When students fail to comply with this policy, the School reserves the right to confiscate the PED for offenses. Parents will be required to collect the confiscated PED from the school.

Should a student ring or text from a mobile phone without permission, or should Parents contact the student directly, the student's rights to bringing in a PED will be suspended.

If the School is of the opinion that the PED contains inappropriate material or that the material on the PED could be used in an inappropriate manner, a member of the Executive Team will request that the student show them the contents of the PED including all memory cards stored in the device. This will be done in the presence of another teacher who will act as a support and a witness. Alternatively, the Executive Team may hold the PED until the student's parents are present before the contents are viewed. In extreme cases the assistance of police may be called.

If inappropriate or offensive material is found stored on the Personal Electronic Device, consequences for breaching the School's Behaviour Code will apply which may include detention, suspension and/or expulsion.

Should the device be used to capture content at school that is inappropriate or harmful to another student (or teacher) and that student then chooses to post this content on the internet or in any other public arena, the student will be subject to the same discipline as if they had been found with this content on the school premises.