



CELL PHONE POLICY

The school management as well as the governing body of Dunatos Remedial School and the staff decided on this policy. This document thus becomes an internal policy document that will be contained in the prospectus and code of conduct. The teachers will discuss this with their learners.



PRINCIPALS :

- During an official school day from 7:57 – 14:15 no student is allowed to have their cell phones switched on during any classroom or teaching situation or during breaks. Learners are also not allowed to use their cell phones in any way before school on the school grounds. If a student is caught in violation of the rule, the student must hand over their cell phone (NB the teacher is not allowed to take it from the learner) to the monitoring / supervising teacher. The cell phone will be kept in safe storage for the following periods:
 - First violation for 5 school days
 - Second violation for 10 school days
 - Third violation for 15 school days
- The cell phone can be collected at the office after the safe keeping period ends. The parent / guardian at the end of the school day, (for the period that the cell phone is taken away it will be locked in the school safe for safe keeping.) This will be treated as a Grade 1 violation of the code of conduct.
- In the case that the student is using the cell phone in an assessment period (exams, standard test) their cell phone must be handed over to the teacher involved. This will be treated as a Grade 2 violation of the code of conduct. The cell phone can be fetched at the end of the term by a parent / guardian only at the office.
- In the case of the student bringing a cell phone to school, we cannot be held responsible for it. Bringing a cell phone to school is solely the responsibility of the student involved. A cell phone may not be kept or carried in a bag / holder on the student's waistband either. Students are welcome, but not obligated to hand in their cell phones in admin period to their register teacher for safe keeping (to being locked in a safe or cabinet.)
- In case a parent / guardian has an emergency or message to be communicated to a student during an official school day it will be treated the same as it generally would. All calls must be made to the office and the secretary will then inform the learner concerned accordingly.
- Students may also not use a cell phone during school hours. In the case of an emergency, the students involved can make a call at the office.
- The school can also not take responsibility for any cell phones after the official school day (referring to any times students part take in activities or sport.)
- Teachers use their cell phones in class because it is the only form of communication between the office and the teachers.

WHY DO WE NOT WANT CHILDREN TO USE CELL PHONES AT SCHOOL :

1. The school has a telephone at reception. If a child has to contact a parent urgently, it can be done by the office.
2. The safety aspect: Primary school-, High school- and LSEN learners make easy targets to criminal elements who want to steal cell phones.
3. Financial implication on the parent / guardian: To replace a stolen cell phone is very expensive. The school can also not take responsibility for the cell phones.
4. See the above with regards to learners who use cell phones during class
5. Safe keeping of all the phones at the school: Logistically, it is not possible to keep and manage all cell phones at the school.
6. Cell phones are often the "instrument" that student use to bully other students.
7. Some learners are not yet mature enough to use it responsibly and we want to protect them against pornography, sexual harassment and bullying.

SIGNED AND CONFIRMED

	
Mrs. M L Stander Managing Director / Owner	Mrs. S van Zyl Principal