



CONNECTED DEVICES POLICY

Issued	August 2026	Replaces	July 2024	Revision due	August 2027
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STATEMENT OF POLICY

Ryan Catholic College accepts that connected devices are a part of modern society. The College accepts that many students will possess mobile phones and various electronic devices. These are not compulsory devices either for a student's safety at the College or their access to teaching and learning. This policy is directed towards students developing self-regulation and the ethical, responsible use of these connected devices.

Connected devices for the purposes of this policy include mobile phones and wearable devices capable of internet access (either cellular, Bluetooth, or Wi-Fi). The College recognises the evolving nature of this technology and reserves the right to determine, on an individual basis, whether a particular device is being used by a student in a way that falls within the purview of this policy.

INTRODUCTION

This policy addresses the need for the College to provide consistent, clear expectations regarding the use of connected devices during College hours on Campus and at College-sanctioned events.

RATIONALE

Ryan Catholic College accepts that parents/carers may choose to allow their child to own and carry connected devices.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that teaching and learning spaces, including play and recreation areas, are free of distractions, so that students have opportunities to engage socially and form connections with others in the College community. It also enables all staff to exercise their duty of care by ensuring students' safety at the College.

POLICY DIRECTIVE

- Students should take measures to ensure they are responsible for the safety and identification of their connected devices.
- The College accepts no responsibility for students who lose, or have connected devices damaged or stolen while at, or travelling to and from, the College.
- The College accepts no responsibility for connected devices brought to the College.
- Students are to keep their phones in their bags or personal lockers in Years 7-12. P-6 students are to give their phone to the classroom teacher for the entirety of the school day or keep it in their bag.



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- School-related activities before or after the school day are also governed by this policy
- All other connected devices are to be used responsibly and not for communication. Breaches of this will be dealt with in accordance with the Positive Behaviour Management Policy.
- Any connected device, if sanctioned for use, that becomes a distraction and disrupts learning will be confiscated.
- There are to be no connected devices brought into assessments or examinations.
- Medical devices are excluded from this policy.
- Excursions and camps - students are required to obtain permission from a staff member and may be granted permission to use their connected device.
- During school hours, parents are required to make contact with their child via the College office. This will ensure your child is reached quickly and assisted appropriately.
- Students are to use their connected devices ethically, in a way that neither harms nor damages any person, organisation, or their reputation. Students are educated through the curriculum to be effective, thoughtful and ethical digital consumers and creators.

CONSEQUENCES

Students who infringe the expectations set out in this policy will have their devices confiscated by staff. Consequences will be escalated by the Principal, Deputy Principal, or Principal's delegate for subsequent offending. The connected device will be taken to a secure place within the College, and students will be dealt with through the College's Positive Behaviour Management processes.

REFERENCES

TCEO  ITS_G103_09_25 Acceptable Use of Technology Guidelines.pdf
Ryan Catholic College Positive Behaviour Management Policy

Revision History:

- [July 2024](#)
- [October 2022](#)