The Electronic Devices Policy (including laptops, mobile phones, iPods, MP3 players, gaming devices) provides for effective management of the learning environment. This Policy will allow for students to give their full attention to their learning, without the disruption of electronic devices during lesson time.

**Rationale**

Students have the right to learn, and teachers have the right to teach. As technologies rapidly change, schools must find a balance between those that give us an educational advantage and those that inhibit learning. Electronic devices, other than laptops, are becoming increasingly intrusive in our classrooms without providing any education benefits.

**UNDERDALE HIGH SCHOOL’S POLICY ON THE USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

**Mobile phones and all other electronic devices (excluding laptops)**

1. Mobile phones and electronic devices will not be taken to class or be accessed during lesson time:
   - Mobile phones and electronic devices must be kept in the students locker during lesson time
   - This includes Home Group, Social Education, study lessons and homework club

2. If the mobile phone and/or electronic device is not used according to this Policy, then the teacher will confiscate the device for the rest of the day:
   - The student is to collect the device from the Front Office at the end of the day

3. Electronic devices are brought to school at the student’s own risk and can only be accessed:
   - Before / After School
   - Break 1 / Break 2
   - In accordance with the law
     - They may not be used to:
       - Illegally record images or footage of others
       - Record and publish fights
       - Display or distribute illegal material, such as explicit images.

**Laptops**

1. Laptops need to be switched off, or the screen lowered, during lesson time until the teacher has instructed that the device is to be used as it is appropriate for the learning task

2. Laptops not being used according to this Policy will be confiscated for the lesson and alternative arrangements will be made to meet the goals of the learning task

**NOTE:**

- Individual students will not be exempted from the general rules about electronic device use at school.
- Parents who have concerns about this policy should contact the Principal
- The school takes no financial responsibility for any devices brought to school if lost or stolen, however, we will investigate any issues regarding the security of devices left in lockers
- Students must ensure that their locker is secured and locked at all times
- If devices have been confiscated, they will be kept in a sealed envelope in a locked cabinet at the front office until collected at the end of the day
- In case of an emergency, the parent can contact the school on 8301 8000 and the school will get a message to your child immediately

**Underpinning this Policy:**

- UHS Acceptable Use of Learning Technologies Policy
- UHS Bullying and Harassment Policy
- UHS Responsible Behaviour Policy

**References:**

- Mobile phones are addictive
- Students need a license for a mobile, just like they need for driving
- Schools should ban mobile phones