



Sun Valley
Group of Schools

Brigantine Avenue Sun Valley 7975
Tel: 021 785 2722 Fax: 021 785 2176 Email: info@sunvalleygroup.co.za



Cell Phone Policy

1. Background

1.1 Cell Phones are a vital tool in the communication chain. Y Generation students are particularly dependent on them for communication and games. They are an accessory that most students possess.

1.2 Sun Valley Group of School recognises the need for students attending this school to be in the possession of a cell phone. However, the school is deeply concerned at the use of cell phones to damage the self-value of students. The easy availability of soft and hardcore pornography for cell phones, access to the internet, use of the camera function to take inappropriate images and the use of the cell phones for MSN make it a dangerous instrument in the hands of children.

1.3 In order to deal with the current trend, the following policy has been approved.

2. Legislation

2.1 The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, Act 108 of 1996.

2.2 The South African School Act, Act 84 of 1996.

2.3 Western Cape Provincial School Education Act, Act 12 of 1997.

3. General

3.1 Liability

3.1.2 The School takes no responsibility for cell phones of learners, staff or visitors once they enter the school grounds. Theft or damage of a cell phone will not be regarded as a school matter.

3.2 Protocol for learners

3.2.1 Cell phones are switched off on entering the ground of the school. As soon as learners report to the Home Classroom in the morning, all cell phones will be placed in the Cell Phone Storage Unit provided. The class teacher will lock the Cell Phone Storage Unit. At the end of the academic day, the responsible class teacher will unlock the UNIT and distribute

the cell phones. Cell phones may only be switched on once students are no longer on the school premises.

3.2.2 Having a cell phone in their possession, using a cell phone or not handing in their cell phone for safe keeping, represents a contravention of the Cell Phone Policy.

3.3 Contravention of Cell Phone Policy: This policy runs for a 36 month period

3.3.1 First Contravention

a) Students who contravene the Cell Phone Policy will have their cell phone removed for 14 school days.

b) The cell phones will be logged with the HEAD: School Family Affairs and stored in the School Safe.

3.3.2 Second Contravention

a) Students who continue to contravene the Cell Phone Policy will have their cell phone removed for 40 school days.

3.3.3 Third Contravention

a) Repeat offenders will lose the right to have a cell phone at school and bringing a cell phone to school will result in it being confiscated for the entire Academic Year.

b) Students who contravene the Cell Phone Policy and experience the removal of their cell phone for a period of time, may apply in writing to HEAD: Student Affairs giving a detailed explanation as to why the phone was used in the school environment. Depending on the student's Disciplinary Rating and Record, the Head: School Family Affairs may or may not review the length of time that the phone will be removed.

3.4 Special Concessions:

3.4.1 Students going through trauma as a result of an event and who need to keep their cell phones with them in order to be contactable may apply in writing to the HEAD: Student Affairs for a SPECIAL PERMIT.

3.4.2 EMERGENCY CALLS: Students who need to make an emergency call about plans for after school collection or sport arrangements may request for the phone to be released during the 10 minute period before lunch break. Students will then use this time make the call and immediately return it to the STORAGE UNIT.

3.5 Protocol for staff

3.5.1 Teaching staff are prohibited from using their cell phones during the school day.

3.5.2 Special Concession for cell phone usage will be restricted to the use of cell phones for

a) Estate Staff, with the exception of using it for personal purposes,

b) Administration, Home Base and Sport Staff, when the landline is disconnected

When the abovementioned protocol is contravened the Disciplinary Process for Staff members will be followed.