PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE (PED) POLICY

Rationale
St. Benedict’s College embraces emerging digital technologies and encourages its teachers and students to look for ways of using them to enhance teaching and learning. The availability and appropriate use of these resources provide opportunities that can help students develop spiritually, academically, socially and physically. Their inappropriate use can be detrimental to the teaching/learning process, anti-social, and even harmful. These guidelines outline the principles and parameters for the use of PEDs at the College.

Guidelines
1) This policy applies to all Personal Electronic Devices including but not limited to mobile phones and portable storage devices (such as MP3, MP4, Ipod etc).
2) PEDs may be used within a classroom where this is deemed advantageous by the teacher. This decision should be made considering all implications of using the PED and should not be used to replace the notebook computers that each student has been issued with.
3) PEDs must be turned off and out of sight at all times except with the express permission of a staff member.
4) Any PED that is seen by a staff member or used in an inappropriate manner during the school day will be confiscated.
5) On the first occasion in any term, confiscated devices will be held at the front office until the end of the day. Parents will be notified of the breach via the College diary. On subsequent occasions, the device will be held at the front office until a parent/guardian attends the College to retrieve the device.
6) All PEDs that are brought into the college are done so at the parent’s own risk. The College takes no responsibility for lost or damaged PEDs.
7) The above guidelines also apply to any College events including excursions, sporting days and special activity days.
8) Continued breaches of this policy will necessitate the need for a parent interview with the Principal to discuss the student’s continued enrolment at the College.
9) Misuse of a PED may result in disciplinary action and where required may be referred to the police or other appropriate authorities.

Basis of Discretion
1) The Principal reserves the right at all times to review current practices and recommend changes that are appropriate and in the best interests of the school or individual students.

Supporting Documents
1) Diocese of Wollongong SPB4L procedures.
2) BOS school’s registration manual relating to “Safe and Supportive Environment”.
3) National Safe Schools Framework

Evaluation
This policy will be reviewed in November 2013 by the policy group.

Date of Implementation
Principal……………………………………… Date: ……………………