



Attachment 1 to the Code of Conduct of the DSK

Rules on the use of multimedia electronic devices at the

Deutsche Internationale Schule Kapstadt (German International School Cape Town, DSK)

„As little as possible, as often as necessary“

Context

At DSK there is an atmosphere of reciprocal respect. We each take responsibility for our behaviour, support and encourage the respectful and honest treatment of ourselves, and those with whom we come into contact.

Ringtones, and the humming of silenced phones disturb the flow of a class, and disrupt the concentration of class participants. The variety of alternative options that students have with a smartphone (i.e. video-taking, internet access, SMS) often stops them from participating in school-related work.

Texts, pictures, videos, which are insulting, injuring or belittling to others, are too easily enabled and too quickly spread with electronic devices. As a result, these devices, which are rarely supervised and checked by parents and guardians, serve as a suitable platform for bullying.

The use of these devices for playing music is an accepted and enriching pastime. However, it disrupts concentration during class, and encourages students to sit on the margins of social interaction (e.g. isolated through headphones) and not participate in communication other than that which takes place through an electronic source or network.

As a result, we would like to bring all school participants and stakeholders to a point where the use of electronic devices is more discerning, more controlled and more responsible.

It is anticipated that the following goals will be reached with the introduction of these rules:

- Avoid class interruptions
- Encourage and promote a culture of conversation during break times

- Prevent the exposure to and sharing of prohibited content in the form of videos or violent games.
- Protect the individual rights of all students, and their private space (prevention of cyber bullying)

Our rules are:

1. The piece of equipment / phone can be brought to school at one's own risk, but must be switched off when entering the school premises and remain off for the duration of the school day (including extracurricular activities). Senior Students (Classes 10-12) are permitted to use electronic devices during break times in the vicinity of the 'Oberstufenraum' and/ or the break area allocated for High School Students.

2. The device in question, along with its accessories (eg headphones) must remain in a bag throughout the school day, unless a teacher gives permission for it to be used for instructional purposes and/or emergency situations.

3. At school events, such as on outings and trips, the supervising teacher will decide on how electronic devices will be dealt with.

4. The use of school equipment (eg computers, printers, etc.) is limited to the handling of teaching relevant topics and requires that a teacher or administrator be present. In such cases the guidelines for the use of the IT facilities of DSK must be followed.

5. Photo, video and sound recordings may only take place on school grounds with the permission of the school principal in advance.

In cases of reasonable suspicion, the school reserves the right to view and copy information that is stored on electronic devices and/or phones, to make sure that no offensive or harmful communication, in particular pornographic material or cyber-bullying, is exchanged and/or distributed amongst or by students.

6. The school accepts no responsibility for any damage to, or loss of, equipment and related accessories, eg headphones while these are on the school property.

7. A breach of any of these rules will result in the device being removed by a member of the teaching or administrative staff, and being handed in to the school secretary to be kept in a safe place. The device will then only be released to either a parent or guardian after a one week waiting period.

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