

Mobile Phone Policy

For the purposes of this policy, 'mobile phones' includes smart watches and devices, and associated listening accessories, such as, but not limited to, headphones and ear pods.

Purpose

It is acknowledged that when used effectively as a tool to enhance learning, mobile phones can play an important role in education. A ban on their use, however, when not in direct support of education, will ensure that schools can provide a safe and productive learning environment for students in their care. The decision to ban the use of mobile phones in schools is intended to remove the potential learning distraction for students, protect the privacy of staff and students, improve social connections at school and improve the health and wellbeing of students. While it is recognised that cyber-bullying mainly occurs outside school time, banning the use of mobile phones will allow students to better engage with their learning and with their peers, without the pressure felt when needing to respond to a mobile phone.

Schools are, and will continue to be, committed to the education of students, staff and their school community in the responsible and acceptable use of mobile phones.

There is no requirement for students to have a mobile phone at school. However, for security and safety purposes to and from school, some parents/carers have supplied their child with a mobile phone.

School Expectations

At our school, students must hand their mobile phone to front office staff prior to the commencement of the day. The mobile phone can then be collected from the office at the end of the school day.

Procedures for Managing Non-Compliance with the Mobile Phone Policy

Positive promotion of the expectation will be the main course of action taken to assist students to meet the requirements. We believe students should be involved through the positive promotion and reminders of our expectations to develop the skills required to navigate the community successfully. However, it is ultimately the parent's responsibility to support their children to meet these expectations and this is evidenced by parents being engaged at Step 2.

Step 1.



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Students will be reminded of the mobile phone policy informally by a member of staff, with direction to take the mobile phone to the office.

Step 2

Contact made with parents to raise the matter of non-compliance with the mobile phone policy and the need to take action to ensure students are meeting these expectations.

Step 3

Parents will be contacted by administration to ascertain the reason for continued non-compliance and provide support, where necessary, to families to meet these requirements.

Exemptions

Exemptions to this include: where a student needs to monitor a health condition as part of a documented health care plan approved by the school principal (or delegate); or under the direct instruction of a teacher for educational purposes; or with permission of a teacher for a specified purpose.