

Electronic Devices Policy

The State Government announced a new Student Mobile Phones in Public Schools policy effective from Term 1, 2020. The policy requires all public schools to implement a ban on the use of mobile phones for all students from the time they arrive at school to the end of the school day. This extends to the use of smart watches which need to be on aeroplane mode during this period. The policy aims to reduce distractions in class and improve student engagement.

In the policy, secondary students are allowed to have their phones in their possession but must turn them off and keep them out of sight until the end of school.

All personal electronic devices are to be switched off during the school day. The school recognises that there are times when it is genuinely appropriate and useful for students to use their connectable device such as a mobile phone – for example, to contact parents in emergencies, to confirm or change a collection time after drama/music, etc. However, it is not necessary or acceptable for mobile phones to be switched on or used during school hours.

Teachers have the right to confiscate any electronic device if used inappropriately and/or without direct instructions from the teacher. The confiscated electronic device is stored in a locked safe until the student (or parent) collects it from Student Services Office, at the end of the day. First offence – Students can collect; Second offence – Parent phone call and students can collect; Third offence – Parent to collect; Subsequent offences – Parent to collect.

Persistent offenders, or those who refuse to hand over their electronic device, will be referred directly to Student Services. If necessary, these students will have parents contacted to come and retrieve the item.

Students that need to make a phone call during the day are able to access a telephone in the front office or in Student Services.

Students are prohibited from taking photos or filming staff and/or students at any time unless it is part of their school curriculum and permission is given by the participants.

