



## Mobile Phone Policy - Away for the Day

From Term 1 2024 in accordance with Departmental policy, all state school students must keep their mobile phones switched off and 'away for the day' during school hours. Notifications on wearable devices, such as smartwatches, must be switched off so that phone calls, messages and other notifications cannot be sent or received during school hours.

This document also applies to student attendance at school activities, such as representative school sport, excursions and camps, unless otherwise determined by the school principal.

### Overview

Queensland state schools are committed to reducing the distraction of mobile phones and wearable devices to provide optimal learning environments for all students. 'Away for the day' aims to:

- reduce distractions in the classroom
- increase face-to-face interactions between students
- promote student health and wellbeing
- reduce the potential for student exposure to negative impacts of the digital world, such as cyberbullying.

### What is a mobile phone?

- For the purpose of this document, *mobile phones and wearable devices* include mobile phones, smartwatches, handheld devices and other emerging technologies which have the ability to connect to telecommunication networks or the internet.
- This document does not apply to personal or school-owned devices, such as iPads, tablets or laptops, that are approved for educational use as part of the school's Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy. However, the messaging capability must be switched off in accordance with the school's iPad policy.
- Any device which can be used to phone or message a third-party including parents. For example, mobile phones, watches etc.

### Expectations of students bringing mobile phones/devices to school:

- Mobile phones/devices are brought to school at the student's own risk. No liability will be accepted by the school in the event of loss, theft or damage of the phone.
- Students who choose to bring to school mobile phones or any device which can be used as a phone or to message a third party, must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours.
- Where students choose to bring a mobile device to school, they must use a lockable pouch to secure the device during the day in their school bag. Lockable pouches can be purchased through the [Uniform Shop](#).
- Once school is finished, lockable pouches may be unsealed for students to use once off school grounds.

Unlocking stations will be located at various common areas around the school grounds:

1. Under A block near the New Cleveland Rd entrance
2. Tilley Road Stop Drop and Go
3. Formosa Road entrance – on the fence near the exit from the oval.

- All messages for students need to be directed through student services.

The mobile phone policy does not apply for activities outside school hours:

- out-of-school-hours events
- travelling to and from school

## Exceptions

Exceptions to the policy may be applied if certain conditions are met. Exceptions can only be granted by the principal, and must be documented.

Where an exception is granted, the student can only use the mobile phone/device for the purpose for which it was granted.

[Mobile Phone Policy FAQs](#)