

Mobile Phone and Electronic Device Policy

In a world that is increasingly connected and reliant of technology, Lockyer District State High School supports the appropriate use of devices that support and increase learning outcomes while ensuring all staff and students are safe. One of our key values is an orderly learning environment and this policy has been developed to ensure our school is free of unnecessary distractions, allows all teachers to teach and all students to learn in a setting that promotes positive social interactions.

Definition: Mobile phones and electronic devices for the purpose of this policy includes: mobile phones, portable music players, smart watches, air buds/headphones, portable speakers and gaming devices.

Lockyer District State High School has a policy of no mobile phones/electronic devices. This does not include laptop/tablet computers that are part of our BYO devices program. Our school office has always and will continue to accept messages from parents to pass onto students.

This policy is designed to increase student engagement and success at school through the removal of a significant disruptor of learning. Students do not need a mobile phone in the learning environment – whether it be to check the time, to make calculation or to take photos. All of our classrooms have a clock and LDHS has a bell system used to support the daily routine of the school; calculators are an essential item for a range of subjects and should be considered an essential item; and our school owns numerous suitable devices that can be borrowed to take photos or videos. These school owned devices are purchased through the *Student Resource Scheme*.

School Expectations

All students will have their mobile phone and/or electronic device turned off and out of sight from when the first bell rings at 8:50am until the final bell at 3:10pm

It is **unacceptable** for students of Lockyer District State High School to use a mobile phone or other device:

- **whilst on school grounds from the first bell of the day until the final bell at 3:10pm;**
- in an unlawful manner;
- to download, distribute or publish offensive messages or pictures;
- and their own person, to use inappropriate, obscene, inflammatory, racist, discriminatory or derogatory language;
- and their own person, to use language and/or make threats of violence that may amount to bullying and/or harassment, or even stalking;
- and their own person to insult, harass or attack others or use obscene or abusive language;
- and their own person to commit plagiarism or violate copyright laws;
- or their own person to ignore teacher directions in the use of social media, online email and internet chat
- send spam email (junk mail);
- to knowingly download viruses or any other programs capable of breaching the department's network security;
- to use in-phone cameras anywhere a normal camera would be considered inappropriate, such as in change rooms or toilets, playground or classroom;
- to invade someone's privacy by recording personal conversations or daily activities, capturing people's images and/or the further distribution (e.g. forwarding, texting, uploading, Bluetooth use etc.) of such material;
- including Bluetooth functionality, to cheat during exams or assessments;

- to take into exams or use during class assessment.

Students wishing to have their mobile phone or device stored safely at school can present them to the office, where the device will be labelled and kept securely by the school until collection.

Students with medical needs who need to keep the device on them must provide medical documentation to support this and the arrangement will be approved by the Principal or appropriate Deputy Principal.

The use of mobile phones and devices during school activities outside the school grounds (such as excursion, sport and camps) will be at the discretion of the relevant staff supervising the activity.

Consequences:

The consequences for failing to meet the expectation outlined above are that students accessing their device will:

1. On the first occasion the student will be directed to the office to surrender the phone to be stored for the remainder of the day. Students can collect the phone after the final bell at 3:10pm. An SMS to the student's parents/caregivers will be sent by Student Services administration staff upon collection of the phone, to advise of the confiscation and consequences for repeated breach.
 2. On the second occasion students will be directed to the office to surrender their phone and it will be collected by a parent or guardian. An SMS to the student's parents/caregivers will be sent by Student Services administration staff upon collection of the phone, to advise of the confiscation and consequences for repeated breach.
 3. **On the third and subsequent occasions of accessing a mobile phone or electronic device at school, this will constitute repeated refusal to follow instructions and consequences will be in line with the school's code of conduct and could include, but not be limited to an external suspension.**
- **Refusal to comply with the directions given to surrender a phone will result in 'third' occasion consequences.**