



Policy - Acceptable Use of Mobile Phones and Personal Digital Devices*

Purpose

To provide clear guidance and advice to Students, Parents/Guardians, Staff and the School Community regarding acceptable and/or appropriate use of mobile telephones and other personal digital devices at Lockyer District High School.

Overview

At Lockyer District HS we understand the importance and relevance that mobile phones and personal digital devices have for our adolescent students. The use of mobile phones and other personal digital devices (including those with Bluetooth functionality) by students at school, if unmonitored, can become disruptive.

Mobile phones and other electronic equipment are always used and brought to school at their owners' risk. No liability will be accepted by Lockyer District HS in the event of loss, theft or damage to any device unless it can be established that the loss, theft or damage resulted from the department's negligence.

Using a mobile phone or personal digital device in the spirit of

Learning **D**edication **H**onour **S**uccess

means to commit and adhere to the responsibilities as outlined below:

Students

- to display courtesy, consideration and respect for others whenever they are using a mobile phone or personal digital device;
- to ensure that the use of mobile phone or personal digital is conducted in a manner or place that is not in any way disruptive to the normal routine of the school;
- to turn off (power off) and to keep out of sight any mobile phone or personal digital device while in a scheduled class or other school directed activity (this includes any leave taken from class to go to the toilet or while running any errands);
- to commit to only using a mobile phone or personal digital device before or after school, or during recess and lunch breaks while still ensuring that all instructions are being followed while the devices are being used;
- to negotiate with relevant staff when wishing to use these devices in special circumstances;
- to agree to and to understand that the invasion of privacy through the recording of personal conversations or daily activities and/or the further distribution (e.g. via Multi Media Messaging Service, Bluetooth) of such material will result in disciplinary action most likely suspension and contravenes the [*Invasion of Privacy Act 1971 \(Qld\)*](#);
- to agree that a mobile phone or electronic device may not be taken into or used at exams or during class assessment and will be surrendered to appropriate staff before entering;
- to agree to and to understand that the sending of text messages or posting of statements to websites that contain obscene language and/or threats of violence may amount to bullying and or harassment or even stalking, and will be subject to disciplinary action most likely suspension and potentially police investigation;
- to agree to and to understand that the use of mobile phones and personal digital devices that contravene Lockyer District High School's 'Acceptable Use Policy' will lead to the devices being confiscated by school staff, with collection/return to occur at the end of the school day or by parents/guardians in cases of repeat offences where the device is not required for further investigation;
- to volunteer their mobile phone number for the purpose of recording it on the school's management system if intending to use the phone while being at school.



Parent / Guardians

- to agree to and understand the responsibilities as outlined under the role of Students
- to support the school in ensuring the acceptable use of mobile phones and personal digital device is adhered to as outlined in this policy

School

- to ensure the safety and privacy as outlined in this policy of all student in our care
- to enforce fairly and consistently the acceptable use of mobile phones and personal digital devices at Lockyer District HS.

Strategies employed to promote acceptable and appropriate use Mobile Phones and Personal Digital Devices* at Lockyer District HS

- Lockyer District HS employs the THINK strategy in relation to students' communication using electronic means (e.g. texting, social media etc.)

Before you write or say something **THINK** whether it is ...

- **T** rue
 - **H** elpful
 - **I** nspiring
 - **N** ecessary
 - **K** ind
- This policy is published on the school's website, a copy of the policy is made available on enrolment and the policy will be published in the student diary.

References

- Lockyer District HS - Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students
- Lockyer District HS – Policy - Temporary Removal (Confiscating) of Student Property
- Appropriate Use of Mobile Telephones and other Electronic Equipment by Students - <http://ppr.det.qld.gov.au/education/learning/Pages/Appropriate-Use-of-Mobile-Telephones-and-other-Electronic-Equipment-by-Students.aspx>

* mobile phones and other personal digital devices (including those with Bluetooth functionality) are including but not limited to mobile phones, iPads, iPods, MP3-players, digital cameras, personal laptops