

Phones **away** for the day

Pimpama State School is committed to reducing the negative impacts of mobile phone and smart device use on the school grounds to provide optimal learning environments for all students. Included in this commitment is ensuring:

- the privacy of students and staff is maintained,
- opportunities for students to engage in or experience online bullying is minimised,
- distractions caused by mobile phones or smart devices do not interfere with learning, and
- students engage in face-to-face social interactions while at school.

For the purpose of this policy, mobile devices include all:

- mobile phones,
- wearables such as smartwatches, and
- other technologies which have the ability to connect to telecommunication networks or the internet outside of the Department of Education school network.
- other technologies which have the ability to take recordings, images or video.

Mobile devices (such as smartwatches) set to flight mode, school mode or a similar mode are also included in this policy, as the school does not monitor or manage the settings associated with these modes.

BYO iPads and Laptops which are connected to the Department of Education network and monitored by school staff are not included in this policy, however, guidelines are outlined in the *Use of information and Communication Technologies (ICT)* section of the Student Code of Conduct.

Student Responsibilities

Families have many reasons for providing their child with a mobile phone or smart device before or after school. While there are times is genuinely appropriate and beneficial to have access to a mobile phone or smart device, these times are outside of school time and outside the school grounds.

To ensure students are able to access their mobile phone or smart device outside of school time and outside the school grounds, students must adhere to the following responsibilities:

- Students are not permitted to access a mobile phone or smart device during school time, or on the school grounds.
- Students who bring a mobile phone or smart device to school must keep the device in their bag, on silent for the duration of the school day and while on school grounds.

- Students are welcome to sign their mobile phone or smart device in at the office, however, the device must be clearly named.
- Students are not permitted to access a mobile phone or smart device during school excursions, camps, or other extra-curricular activities while they are under the supervision of school staff.
- Students who need to contact their parents/carers during school time or while on school grounds are permitted to speak with the school office staff who will contact the student's parents/carers.
- Mobile phone or smart devices at school are strictly the responsibility of the child. Pimpama State School will not accept any liability and responsibility for stolen, damaged or misplaced devices.
- If provided an exemption, only using the mobile phone or smart device for the agreed purpose.

Parent/Carer Responsibilities

- Parents/carers support their child to meet the expectations of mobile phone and other device use at Pimpama State School.
- Parents/carers support implementation of this policy by using the school's preferred communication channels to contact their child during school hours (i.e. contacting the school office to pass on an important message, or requesting to speak with their child).
- If required, parents/carers apply for exemptions for medical, disability and/or wellbeing reasons by discussing their concerns with the school principal.

Staff Responsibilities

- Staff ensure students and parents/carers are familiar with Pimpama State School's use of mobile phones and other devices policies.
- Staff implement expectations for student mobile phone and other device use.
- Staff who see a student not following the expectations outlined, will take reasonable action to ensure the commitments outlined in this policy are met.
- Staff issue disciplinary consequences for students who breach this aspect of the Student Code of Conduct.