

Acceptable Use Mobile Phone / Smart Device Policy

Pimpama State School



Schools can make reasonable rules about what students can and cannot bring to school. They can ban anything which is illegal, dangerous or is likely to cause disruption or harm to the smooth running of the school and the education of other students.

The use of mobile phones and other smart devices with phone, messaging or social media functionality in class is disruptive to the learning environment. This policy applies to mobile phones, smart watches, pagers, portable music playing devices, personal digital assistants, and phone/messaging functionality on iPads, Tablets and Laptops.

At Pimpama State School the guidelines for the appropriate use of mobile phones includes the following points:

- **Hired phone lockers are available for students in Year 5 and 6 to store their mobile phone or smart device.**
- **Prep to Year 4 students wishing to bring a mobile phone or smart device to school must have the device clearly named. The device is to be signed in at the office before school, and signed out after school.**
- Students are not permitted to access a mobile phone or smart device during school times, or on the school grounds. The office staff contact parents/carers in the case of an emergency, or if they have not been collected after school.
- While there are some times when it is genuinely appropriate and beneficial for students to have access to a mobile phone, these times are outside of school time and outside the school grounds. Students may, for example, need to contact parents/carers on the way home, or to confirm or change a collection time after school.
- The policy also applies to students during school excursions, camps and extra-curricular activities.
- It is important that students display courtesy, consideration and respect for others whenever they are using a mobile phone.
- Mobile phones and smart devices should not be used in any manner or place that is disruptive to the normal routine of the school.
- Mobile phone and smart device cameras are not to be used anywhere a normal camera would be considered inappropriate, such as in change rooms or toilets.
- It is recommended by the Education Department that disciplinary action be taken against any student who photographs or films other individuals without their consent or who sends harassing or threatening messages.
- During school hours parents/carers are welcome to phone the office and messages from parents/carers will be passed on to the students.
- During bus travel, mobile phones and smart devices must remain in the student's school bag.
- If a student has a mobile phone or smart device at school, in class or in the playground, the teacher will have the student immediately deliver it to the office. There it will be kept in the secure area until after school. It is the student's responsibility to collect the phone and it will only be returned after 2.35pm.
- Mobile phones are used at their owners' risk. No liability will be accepted by the school in the event of the loss, theft or damage of any device.

Mobile Phone Storage Locker – Year 5 and Year 6

Students in Year 5 and 6 who bring a mobile phone to school will be required to store their mobile phone in the lockers located outside their classroom. Use of lockers will incur a hire fee to cover the cost of the lock. Should a child lose or misplace the lock, this fee will be used to organise a replacement. Students who do not hire a locker will be required to keep their mobile phone at home.

Student Responsibilities and Expectations

Students who hire a locker will be required to adhere to the following responsibilities and expectations:

- Mobile phone use on the school grounds is not permitted.
- Place your mobile phone in your locker before the start of the school day.
- Remove your mobile phone from your locker at the end of the school day.
- Locker access during the school day is not permitted.
- Use the locker to store your mobile phone only.
- Use only the mobile phone locker provided.
- Set a confidential combination code that only you and your parents/carer know.
- Keep your combination code confidential at all times, and not share your code with other students.
- Avoid losing or misplacing your combination lock. If your lock is missing, you will not be able to use the locker.
- Keep your locker neat and tidy. Do not deliberately vandalise or break the lockers.
- Students without a locker in Year 5 and Year 6 will not be permitted to bring their mobile phone to school.
- The lock must be returned in good condition at the end of the school year.

Failure to follow these responsibilities may see the school revoke your use of the mobile phone storage locker. Parents/carers will be notified by the school in this instance.