Student and Families - FAQs

Mobile Phone Policy Most Frequently Asked Questions

Why do we need a new mobile phone policy?

The Victorian Government takes the issues of the safe and responsible use of digital technologies, student safety and wellbeing, and the development of social skills and positive behaviours in schools very seriously.
The new mobile phone policy is intended to reduce distractions in the classroom, tackle cyber bullying during school hours, and improve learning for students.

Can students still bring a mobile phone to school?

Should you choose to bring a mobile phone to school, it will need to be turned off and securely stored away during the school day. In emergencies, your parents will be able to contact you through the school's administration office. The new policy will apply to all government school students.
Like any other item, if you bring your mobile phone to school, you do so at your own risk. The Department's personal goods policy states that 'private property brought to school by students is not insured by the school or covered by school insurance, and is not the responsibility of the Department of Education and Training if that property is lost, stolen or damaged'.

When will the new policy take effect?

Schools will be required to implement the new policy from 2 December 2019.

1. Are smart watches banned too?

   Yes, if your watch can receive or send texts/calls it is banned too.

2. Are fitbits and trackers included in the ban?

   They are included in the ban if they can receive text messages.

3. What will happen if I am using my phone?

   You will be asked by a teacher to hand them your phone and it will be securely stored in the Admin Assistant office for your relevant year level.

4. When will I get it back?

   You will go to the Admin Assistant office at 3pm and collect it from your Year Level Leader.

5. What will happen if I get caught with it again?

   If you get caught with it again, it will be the same process however your phone will be taken to front reception and your parents/guardians will be contacted and they will collect your phone. You will be placed on a mobile phone contract and required to either leave your phone at home or hand your phone in to the Year Level Leader for 5 school days.

6. What if my parents/guardians cannot come to school to collect the phone and I need it for travelling home?

   We will make contact with your parent/guardian and decide who will collect the phone.

7. Where and how will my phone be identified when it has been confiscated?

   It will be placed in a ziplock bag and your name will be placed on the bag.

8. What happens if I am caught using my phone at recess or lunch or before and after school?

   Teachers will ask you to give them your phone and the phone will be taken to the Year Level Admin Assistant's Office

9. Where will I leave my phone if I bring it to school?

   You will put it in your locker and you will be given a lock (by the school). It is your responsibility to ensure that your locker is secure.

10. I have heard that some schools are letting students use their phones to pay at the canteen, use Compass and use the internet.

    The ban is statewide and all school's are required to implement the policy. Mobile devices, such as mobile phones and smart watches, must not be used whilst on school grounds during the school day. The ban applies to all government school students.

11. Can I use my mobile phone before 8.50am and after 3pm when on school grounds?

    No, you cannot use your phone when you are on school grounds. At the end of the day, you must leave the school grounds before beginning to use the device.

12. What if I need to use my phone to film something for school?

    Filming devices and tablets will be available from the library for use by students to film and access the Internet.

13. Will there be a different consequence if I have the phone in class versus if I use it?

    If you bring your phone to school, it must be turned off and secured in your locked locker. If you have it in class, it will be confiscated.

14. Can I use headphones?

    No, headphones are banned unless they are being used for educational purposes in class with teacher permission and with your laptop. This includes wireless headphones.

15. What will happen if I am caught with headphones?

    It will be the same process as being caught with your phone (question 3 above).

16. What if I need to use my phone to go on Compass and see my timetable?

    You can access Compass on your personal laptop. It is important that you have a fully charged, working laptop at school for learning and accessing Compass. Individual Timetables will be provided to students to put in your locker and whole school timetable will be placed around the school.

17. How will I know if I have a room changes?

    Room changes will be communicated in Home Group and on noticeboards near the Year Level Office.

18. What if I need to contact my family?

    Students will be able to use a school phone to contact family members when required.

19. Will I be able to use my mobile phone on excursions and camps?

    This will be determined prior to the camp and communicated to you and your family on the excursion permission slip.

20. Can I use my phone to pay and order at the canteen?

    You will not be able to pay at the canteen using your phone. EFTPOS cards are still accepted.

Who can I speak with if I have additional questions?

Our school has its own mobile phone policy that you can find on our website. If you have further questions about the policy and how it is implemented, you are encouraged to speak with either your Year Level Assistant Principal or Year Level Leader.

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