



## Mobile Phone Policy: “Away for the Day” – Gate to Gate

### Student use of mobile phones and wearable devices at school

From Term 1 2024, all state school students must keep their mobile phones switched off and ‘away for the day’ during school hours. **This commences from the time a student enters our gates to the time they depart our gates.** Notifications on wearable devices, such as smartwatches, must be switched off so that phone calls, messages and other notifications cannot be sent or received during school hours.

‘Away for the day’ will support schools to maintain a strong focus on educational achievement, and student wellbeing and engagement by:

- providing optimal learning and teaching environments
- encouraging increased face-to-face social interactions between students
- promoting the health and wellbeing of students through increased social interaction and physical activity
- reducing the potential for students to be exposed to the negative impacts of the digital world, resulting from unsafe or inappropriate technology use

### Bringing mobile phones and wearable devices to school

Students are permitted to bring mobile phones and wearable devices to school to:

- Support their attendance at certain school activities, such as representative school sport, excursions and camps, unless otherwise determined by the school principal.
- Support safe travel to and from school
- Make contact with parents, friends and part-time employers. **This contact must be made outside of our school gates**

Students who choose to bring mobile phones or wearable devices to school, do so at their own risk and are responsible for ensuring their security. The school and school staff will not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage to technology devices nor will they investigate loss or damage.

### Exemptions

Students with an approved exemption must only use their mobile phone or wearable device for the intended, approved purpose. **The exemption application form can be located at <https://miamishs.eq.edu.au/>**



## Example Individual Circumstances

- the mobile phone or wearable device is used by the student to monitor or manage a medical condition (in accordance with the [Managing students' health support needs at school procedure](#))
- the mobile phone or wearable device is used as an agreed reasonable adjustment for a student with disability or learning difficulties
- the mobile phone or wearable device is used by the student as an augmentative or alternative communication system or as an aide to access and participate in the environment, e.g. navigation or object/people identification applications
- the mobile phone or wearable device is used as an agreed adjustment for a student with English as an additional language or dialect
- the student has extenuating circumstances that necessitates the need for access to their mobile phone or wearable device during the school day, including (but not limited to) students who contribute financially to their household, independent students, and students who are primary carers for a child or family member, or
- students in Years 11 and 12 are applying for Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments (AARA) for assistive technology.

## Consequences for Breaching “Away for the Day”

### First Offence

If a device is sighted or heard, the student will be required to hand it in to Administration where it will be stored until a student's family member can collect the device from Administration.

### Second Offence

For a second offence, a student's family member will be required to collect the device from Administration, at a mutually convenient time. In addition, the student's device will be required to be handed in to Administration each morning for one week.

### Third Offence

A third offence will result in a student's family member being required to collect the device from Administration, at a mutually convenient time. In addition, the student's device will be required to be handed in to Administration each morning for one week and they will be given 5 x after school detentions for continual defiance of the Student Code of Conduct.

### Refusal to Hand a Phone in to Administration

If a student fails to follow staff instructions and refuses to hand in their device to Administration, the student will be referred to Administration (Red Zone), their parents will be contacted and (depending on the student's previous non-compliance) they will be issued with Second or Third Offence consequences.

Parents wishing to urgently contact their students, or vice versa, are required to do so through the school office on 5554 0333.

Our School's Student Code of Conduct outlines the consequences of irresponsible use of technology devices including the filming, photographing and distributing of content obtained without consent.

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CRICOS Provider Code: 00608A

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