

MOBILE DEVICES POLICY

In line with the Department of Education's 'away for the day' approach, the following expectations and procedures will be in place from the start of the 2024 school year at Indooroopilly State High School:

- All students must keep **mobile phones** switched off and 'away for the day' while on school premises. Mobile phones must also be switched off and away while students are attending school activities, such as representative school sport, excursions and camps.
- All students must switch off notifications on **wearable devices**, including smartwatches, while on school premises, and while attending school activities, such as representative school sport, excursions and camps, ensuring that phone calls, messages and other notifications cannot be sent or received during school hours.
- All students must keep **headphones** (wireless/corded), airpods and similar devices turned off and away while on school premises. These devices must also be switched off and away while students are attending school activities, such as representative school sport, excursions and camps.
- Mobile phones, headphones (wireless/corded), airpods must be kept in student's bag during the school day.
- Students are not permitted to use mobile phones or wearable devices to make **payments** at the Tuckshop or Vending Machines. Students are able to make payments using physical bank cards or cash.
- Teachers may give permission for students to use their mobile phones, wearable devices or headphones during a lesson for a specific and agreed **educational purpose**. Teachers will provide permission for specific times and uses that provide a genuine educational benefit that cannot be achieved using laptop devices. These activities will have been approved by Heads of Department and documented in the curriculum unit plan.
- Teachers may give permission for students to use headphones with approved BYOX devices for learning purposes while in the Student Centre or approved study space.
- Teachers may designate specific times during school activities, such as representative school sport, excursions and camps, when students are permitted to use their mobile phones and wearable devices under teacher supervision. These times will need to be documented in the Variation to School Routine.
- Students who require access to their mobile phone, wearable device or headphones during school hours or school activities for medical, disability and/or wellbeing reasons must have an approved exemption and will be issued with an exemption card which must be shown to school staff on request.
- This policy does not apply to school-owned digital devices.

Exemptions

Families can apply for an exemption by completing an exemption form and submitting this to kmcka89@eq.edu.au. A copy of the form is also available on the school website. Exemptions will be approved by the Junior and Senior School Principals and may be granted on grounds including use of a device:

- to monitor or manage a medical condition, in accordance with established health support procedures;
- as an agreed reasonable adjustment for a student with disability or learning difficulties;
- as an augmentative or alternative communication system or as an aide to access and participate in the environment;
- as an agreed adjustment for a student with English as an additional language or dialect;
- in extenuating circumstances that necessitate the need for access to a mobile device during the school day, including students who are primary carers for a child or family member; and
- by students in Years 11 and 12 who are applying for Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments (AARA) for assistive technology.

Contact between students and Parents/Carers

Parents/Carers will need to be aware that students cannot be contacted via their mobile phone or wearable device during the school day while they are on school premises. Parents/Carers may be able to communicate with their child via email. Students are encouraged to check their emails on a regular basis using their BYOX device. In the case of genuinely urgent or time-critical messages, Parents/Carers will be able to communicate to their child by contacting Student Services. Students are able to contact Parents/Carers through Student Services.