

Important to note

- For the purpose of this document, *mobile phones and wearable devices* include mobile phones, smartwatches, handheld devices, earbuds or head phones and other emerging technologies which have the ability to connect to telecommunication networks or the internet.
- This document does not apply to personal or school-owned devices, such as iPads, tablets or laptops that are approved for educational use as part of the college's Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy.

Context

All Queensland state school students must keep their mobile phones switched off and 'away for the day' during school hours. 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.

The college's policy regarding student use of mobile devices also applies to student attendance at school activities, such as representative school sport, excursions and camps, unless otherwise determined by the school principal.

Students participating in activities, such as off-site Vocational Education and Training or work placements must follow the expectations of the organisation in charge regarding the use of mobile devices.

The aims of this policy are to:

- provide optimal learning and teaching environments, free from the distractions caused by personal use of mobile phones and wearable devices
- support schools to create safe and supportive learning environments that prioritise student engagement and wellbeing
- encourage increased face-to-face social interactions between students
- promote the health and wellbeing of students by providing opportunities for social interaction and physical activity during break times, and
- reduce the potential for students to be exposed to the negative impacts of the digital world, resulting from unsafe or inappropriate use of technology, such as cyberbullying, accessing harmful content or breaches of personal privacy.

Bringing mobile phones and wearable devices to school

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

- support safe travel to and from school
- make contact with parents, friends and part-time employers outside of the school day
- be contacted about their own child or person under their care.

Storage of mobile phones

Students will store their phone so that it is **off and out of sight** during the school day. Students may store their phone:

- in their pencil case or laptop case
- in their school bag
- in the administration building where they may sign it in for the day and it will be stored in a secure location.

Student exemptions

Consideration of individual circumstances (eg. medical) will be given to students who require temporary or ongoing exemptions to use their mobile phone. Consideration of individual circumstances should be requested through the sub-school Dean for the Principal's decision.

Approved exemptions, including how and when a student may access their mobile phone or wearable device, should be documented in the student's OneSchool Support Provisions tab and communicated to school staff.

School specific exemptions

Pimpama State Secondary College acknowledges that the use of mobile phones and wearable devices can support the school's teaching and learning programs by providing learning experiences for students, as well as supporting day-to-day school operations.

- Students are permitted to use their mobile phones and wearable devices to make school payments, including for tuckshop, uniform shop and office payments. Students are required to put their phone out of sight immediately after leaving these areas.
- Teachers may request permission from the Principal for students to use their mobile phone or wearable device in a lesson, for a specific and agreed educational purpose. Consideration will only be given to this when the same outcome cannot be achieved using student or school-owned devices approved for educational use.

Supporting responsible use of mobile phones and other devices

Students will store their phone so that it is **off and out of sight** during school hours. Staff will teach expected behaviours regularly.

If a student's phone, earbuds/headphones are sighted or a smartwatch notification occurs during school hours staff will:

- Direct the student to Student Services to hand in the device for the day.
- If students do not follow direction to Student Services to hand in mobile phones refer to Sub- school HODs & Deans in OneSchool (Defiance – Major).
 - Year 7 – HOD Junior School
 - Year 8 – Dean Junior School
 - Year 9 – HOD Middle School
 - Year 10 – Dean Middle School
 - Year 11 – Dean Senior School
 - Year 12 – HOD Senior School
- Students who are repeatedly referred to Student Services will be monitored by the Sub- school Dean via DayMap and consequences will be issued.

Communication with parents

If students need to make contact with parents they are to report to Student Services for support.