

BLAKEHURST HIGH SCHOOL

Mobile Phone and Wearable Devices Policy

Rationale

NSW public schools are committed to providing safe, supportive and responsive learning environments for everyone.

Mobile phones and other devices such as, but not limited to, Apple watches, headphones and air pods have advantages for their use in the broader community, however, in schools, their use is highly problematic. In schools, mobile phones and other devices present distractions to learning and pose a potential risk to student wellbeing and safety.

Student Expectations

At Blakehurst High School, students **may not use mobile phones** or similar devices while on the school grounds from 8:50am until the end of the school day. This applies to **all** students during class time, sport time and break time.

Exemptions for medical purposes may be given after direct negotiation with the Principal.

Students who have an exemption from the policy will have a pink 'mobile phone and wearable device exemption' flag on Sentral and a 'mobile phone and wearable device exemption pass' on Sentral / Wellbeing / Student Plans.

Please note: This also applies to students undertaking school activities such as excursions and off-site sporting activities.

All contact between students and their parents/carers will be facilitated through the school office during the hours of 7.45am and 3.00pm.

Procedures

Each student will be issued one YONDR pouch free of charge. At the beginning of the school day all students will secure their phones in the pouch. Mobile phones will remain in the pouch for the duration of the school day.

Procedures for student non-compliance

If a student is seen with a phone or device, teachers will instruct the student to take the mobile phone or device up to the office with a pink slip informing the office of details about the student.

If a student refuses the classroom teacher's request, the teacher will, where possible, send for a Head Teacher. If it is not possible for the Head Teacher to assist, the information of the incident will be entered into Sentral for the Head Teacher to manage at a later time.

If a student refuses to hand in their device when requested by a Head Teacher it will be logged on Sentral by the Head Teacher and parent contact will be made by the Head Teacher via phone or email informing the parent of the incident. They will also be informed that the student may now be placed

in the Reflection Room by the Deputy Principal as a result of their failure to comply with the school's mobile phone and wearable devices policy and procedures.

The Deputy Principal will also be notified, and if available, the device will be confiscated by the Deputy Principal. The consequence will be, time permitting, that the student being placed in the Reflection Room the following day. Their phone will remain in the front office for the remainder of the day.

First Offence: The student will need to take their phone or device to the Student Administration Office. The phone will be returned at the end of the school day. Logged on Sentral as a phone level 1 by Admin staff.

Second Offence: The student will need to take their phone or device to the Student Administration Office. Admin to call parents to inform them that the phone or device will need to be collected by a parent/guardian. Admin staff to log phone level 2 on Sentral.

Third and any subsequent offenses: Will lead to further management actions. Disciplinary measures to be taken by Deputy Principal. Admin staff to log phone level 3 on Sentral.

If students are rude or offensive to staff they will automatically be given a Formal Caution by a Deputy Principal and be placed in the reflection room. It is important to note that restorative inclusive conversations will occur at every stage.

Lost or damaged pouches

Students who have lost or damaged their pouch are not to bring their phone to school until they have organised a replacement pouch. Students will pay a \$20 fee for replacement of the damaged or lost pouch.

Students who need their phone for travel to and from school will be reissued with a YONDR pouch at a cost of \$20.