

Oberon High School

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MOBILE PHONES – STUDENT USE

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department's and Oberon High School's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones and other personal non educational mobile devices during school hours.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Oberon High School and,
2. Students' personal mobile phones and other personal non educational mobile devices brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.

DEFINITIONS

A mobile phone is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network.

POLICY

Oberon High School understands that students may bring a personal mobile phone to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school.

At Oberon High School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours
- When emergencies occur, parents or carers should reach their child by calling the school's office.

PERSONAL MOBILE PHONE USE

In accordance with the Department's Mobile Phones Policy issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used at Oberon High School during school hours, including lunchtime and recess, unless an exception has been granted.

SECURE STORAGE

Mobile phones owned by students at Oberon High School are considered valuable items and are brought to school at the owner's (student's or parent/carer's) risk. Students are encouraged not to bring a mobile phone to school unless there is a compelling reason to do so. Please note that Oberon High School does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage or theft. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items. Refer to Oberon High School's Personal accident & Personal Insurance Policy and/or the department's Personal Goods policy.

Where students bring a mobile phone to school, Oberon High School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Oberon High School students are required to store their phones either in their lockers or handed into the school administration office to be placed in a lockable cupboard.

ENFORCEMENT

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Oberon High School may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing student engagement policies.

At Oberon High School inappropriate use of mobile phones is **any use during school hours**, unless an exception has been granted, and particularly use of a mobile phone:

- in any way that disrupts the learning of others
- to send inappropriate, harassing or threatening messages or phone calls
- to engage in inappropriate social media use including cyber bullying
- to capture video or images of people, including students, teachers and members of the school community without their permission
- during exams and assessments

EXCLUSIONS

This policy does not apply to

- Out-of-school-hours events
- Travelling to and from school
- Students undertaking workplace learning activities, e.g. work experience
- Students who are undertaking VET

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- Oberon High School Student Wellbeing and Engagement
- Oberon High School Bullying Prevention Policy
- Oberon High School's Personal accident & Personal Insurance
- Mobile Phones – Department Policy
- Ban, Search and Seize Harmful Items
- Personal Goods – Department policy

Policy Status:	Final	Authorised by:	Oberon High School - School Council
Date of Issue:	November 2019	Review Date:	February 2022