



Mobile Phones at Lanyon High School

Introduction

Digital Technology is evolving at a rapid and intractable rate and while it has some educational advantages in teaching and learning, the impact of mobile devices has raised concerns within the school community. Students were previously allowed to bring mobile phones to school and use them as a learning device at the teacher's discretion. This system was designed for a pre-BYOD environment and is no longer appropriate.

Rationale

Staff, students and parents of the Lanyon High community voiced concerns over mobile phone usage at school; including accessing inappropriate content or negative peer interactions.

Teachers have found that mobile phones in the classroom detract from learning, being a major source of distraction for students. As all students are now issued a Chromebook device to use at school, we no longer believe it is necessary for students to use a mobile phone in the classroom. It is a student's responsibility to ensure their Chromebook is charged and brought to school. We have Chromebooks to lend to students who have an issue with their device and need a temporary replacement.

Appropriate use of Mobile Phones

- Phones are not to be used in the classroom. Phones should not be visible or audible during class time. All phones must be in bags and on silent.
- Mobile phones are not to be used (or visible) inside toilet blocks or change rooms.
- Contact with parents and carers in case of illness or an emergency is to be made through the Front Office staff, as they can ensure the student is reached quickly and that appropriate procedures are followed. Other communications such as pick-up arrangements can also be made through the front office or directly to students during break times (11:00am- 11:30am and 1:30pm-2pm). Please be aware students will not be able to respond to text messages until break times.
- Students are not to take photos, video or audio of anyone during the school day without express permission from a teacher and the person whose digital image is captured.
- The school does not accept liability in the event of loss, theft or damage of a phone or accessories such as chargers or headphones.
- Teachers may be required to use their phone in class due to an emergency or a work issue. The rights and responsibilities of staff is different to students.

Procedures if a phone is used inappropriately

- The classroom teacher will prompt or remind student about the mobile phone policy.
- If the student has the phone out a second time, the teacher will give the student a choice of placing the phone in their bag or having it sent to the front office.
- If a student had the phone out a third time the choice will be made for them. An Executive teacher will come to the classroom and put the phone in a bag with the child's name on it and place it at the front office for the remainder of the day.
- If a student's phone is sent to the front office 2 days in a row, on the second occasion a parent/carer will need to come and retrieve the phone from the front office.



- If student refuses to follow the teacher's instructions the behaviour will be dealt with as non-compliance and may result in:
 - o Being removed to a buddy class/detention
 - o Parent/carer meetings
 - o A behaviour contract completed with an executive teacher
 - o More serious consequences, up to and including suspension
- Repeated infringements will require the student and parents/carers to meet with a member of the school leadership team to determine a suitable management plan including leaving the phone at home or at the Front Office during school hours.

Exceptions

Students with a documented medical condition which requires the use of a mobile phone to track the student's health. Once a parent has provided medical evidence to the Pastoral Care Advisor, students will be issued an exemption card for the use of their phone.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The school Executive are responsible for the development of this procedure and to ensure positive reinforcement of the procedure occurs through regular reminders, for example via the school's Facebook page, newsletters, information nights and other communication channels.

Any concerns about the application of this procedure or the procedure itself, should be raised with:

- the school in the first instance;
- the Directorate's Liaison Unit on (02) 6205 5429;
- online at http://www.education.act.gov.au/contact_us;

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Related documents

[Acceptable use of ICT- Parents and Students Policy](#)

[ICT Management in Schools Policy](#)

[Use of Personal Electronic Devices Policy](#)

Related Legislation

[Discrimination Act 1991](#)

[Human Rights Act 2004](#)

[Work Health and Safety Act 2011](#)