

Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices

Mobile phones are part of modern society. Many students have a phone and bring it to school, usually with the knowledge and consent of their parents who see it as convenient and important for their child's safety.

In addition, Holsworthy High School Bring Your Own Device program aims to improve student learning experiences both in and out of the classroom. The school does so with the expectation that students will make good decisions with regard to their personal use of technology.

The Bring Your Own Device User Charter must be agreed to and signed before students are permitted to bring their devices to school and connect them to school facilities.

Students and parents/carers must carefully read the Charter prior to signing it. Any questions should be addressed to the school and clarification obtained before the Charter is signed.

The Charter and agreement can be obtained from the school.

Many students now use their phone as a timepiece instead of a wrist watch, or as a music player, or to play games.

Phone Apps may also be useful as tools to enhance learning.

However mobile phones present a number of concerns for schools including:

- Interrupting lessons and disrupting the learning of other students
- Incidence of theft of mobile phones
- Possibility of being used to contact outsiders who may enter the school illegally
- Disrupting examinations and assessment tasks
- Being used for cheating in examinations
- Phones with photographic and/or video capability may be used to invade privacy by publishing photos without consent.

POLICY

- 1) Students are discouraged from bringing mobile phones to school. **The school accepts no responsibility for mobile phones** that are brought to school, and will not be responsible to investigate any misplacement, loss or theft.
- 2) **Phones are not to be used in class to make or receive calls or messages.** Phones must be turned off when students enter the classroom, and remain off until students are dismissed unless otherwise directed by the teacher.

- 3) **Students who use their phone in class inappropriately will have the phone confiscated** and placed in the lockup till 3.00 pm. Students should not allow other students to use their phones.
- 4) Likewise students who use their phone inappropriately in the **playground**, eg. to film other students, will have their phone confiscated.
- 5) **If a phone is confiscated** the staff member should send the student with their phone and a note to the principal (or deputy principals). If students refuse to take their phone to the principal, staff should seek assistance from an executive staff member.
- 6) If **parents** need to contact their child urgently during class time they should contact the school through the switchboard on **9825 2888**. Alternatively they could leave a message on the student's message bank for viewing during a break.