



BRIGHTON
SECONDARY COLLEGE

STUDENT MOBILE DEVICES POLICY - 2021 -2024

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PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department's and Brighton Secondary College's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using personal mobile devices (including mobile phones and smart watches) while at school, including use during school excursions, camps and extra-curricular activities.

The school recognises that personal mobile devices are ubiquitous and that there are times when it is genuinely appropriate and useful for students to have access to personal mobile devices for travel, to contact parents in emergencies, whilst travelling to and from school

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Brighton Secondary College and,
2. Students' personal mobile devices

This policy sets out to establish clarity around the expectations the College has about the use of personal mobile devices

- Personal mobile devices may not be used to take photographs or film other individuals without their knowledge or permission
- Personal mobile devices must not be used in spaces where a person can reasonably expect privacy, for example changing rooms, toilets, gym and swimming pools
- Personal mobile devices must not be used to send harassing or threatening messages

DEFINITION

For the purpose of this policy, personal devices refers to mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as smart watches.

POLICY

Brighton Secondary College understands that students may bring a personal mobile device to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school.

At Brighton Secondary College:

- Students who choose to bring mobile devices to school must have them switched off and securely stored in their locker during school hours
- Exceptions to this policy may be applied if certain conditions are met (see below for further information)
- When emergencies occur, parents or carers should reach their child by calling the school's office.

PERSONAL MOBILE DEVICE USE

In accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones – Student Use Policy](#) issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used at Brighton Secondary College during school hours, including lunchtime and recess, unless an exception has been granted.

Where a student has been granted an exception, the student must use their mobile phone for the purpose for which the exception was granted, and in a safe, ethical and responsible manner.

GUIDELINES

- Personal mobile devices:
 - Should only be used before or after school
 - May not be carried by a student on their person during school hours, therefore, if brought to school, must be stored in a locker during the entire school day
- Users should display care, courtesy, consideration and respect for others when using a personal mobile device, for example, when on public transport, or crossing roads.
- Personal mobile devices brought to and kept at school, are done so entirely at their owner's risk. The school cannot accept any responsibility for theft, loss, damage or health effects (potential or actual) resulting from the use of these devices.
- Parents and students should recognise that personal mobile devices are a target for theft and, accordingly, they should always be stored in a safe and secure place.
- Parents and students should ensure that devices are properly and adequately insured as personal property.
- Personal mobile devices may be used for curriculum related purposes in a classroom, as specifically requested and/or approved by the supervising teacher (e.g. taking video shots as part of a video media class). In this situation, the device must only be used for the approved purpose, must **not** be used for any other purpose, and must be returned to the student's locker immediately after the permitted use is finished.
- Mobile devices may **not** be used as timepieces or calculators in tests or exams (see acceptable use of mobile devices in assessment policy)
- Any student who is feeling unwell at school and needs to go home must arrange this through the nurse or subschool administrator. Students may not use their personal mobile device to contact home. Any arrangements to leave school must be made through the nurse or relevant sub-school office.

SECURE STORAGE

Personal mobile devices owned by students at Brighton Secondary College are considered valuable items and are brought to school at the owner's (student's or parent/carer's) risk. The school will not accept any responsibility for theft, loss, damage or health effects (potential or actual) resulting from the use of these devices. Parents and students should ensure that personal mobile devices are properly and adequately insured as personal property.

At Brighton Secondary College students must have personal mobile devices switched off and securely stored in their locker at all times during school hours.

ENFORCEMENT

Students who use their personal mobile devices inappropriately at Brighton Secondary College may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing student engagement policies as well as resulting in the personal mobile device being confiscated. If the personal mobile device is confiscated, it will need to be collected from the sub school office at the end of the day. Continued non-observance of these rules may result in devices being surrendered to a sub-school office for storage during school hours.

At Brighton Secondary College inappropriate use of personal mobile devices during school hours, including use during school excursions, camps and extra-curricular activities, unless an exception has been granted includes:

- any way that disrupts the learning of others
- sending inappropriate, harassing or threatening messages or phone calls

- engaging in inappropriate social media use including cyber bullying
- capturing video or images of people, including students, teachers and members of the school community without their permission
- capturing video or images in the school toilets, changing rooms, swimming pools and gyms use during exams and assessments

Students should display care, courtesy, consideration and respect for others when using a personal mobile device, for example, when on public transport, or crossing roads.

EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions to the policy may be applied during school hours if certain conditions are met, specifically,

- Health and wellbeing-related exceptions; and for managing risk when students are offsite.

Exceptions can be granted by the Principal or Leading Teacher Student Support Programs

The three categories of exceptions allowed under the Department’s Mobile Devices – Student Use Policy are:

1. LEARNING RELATED EXCEPTIONS

SPECIFIC EXCEPTION	DOCUMENTATION
For specific learning activities (class-based exception)	Unit of work, learning sequence
For students for whom a reasonable adjustment to a learning program is needed because of a disability or learning difficulty	Individual Learning Plan, Individual Education Plan

2. HEALTH AND WELLBEING-RELATED EXCEPTIONS

SPECIFIC EXCEPTION	DOCUMENTATION
Students with a health condition	Student Health Support Plan
Students who are Young Carers	A localised student record

3. EXCEPTIONS RELATED TO MANAGING RISK WHEN STUDENTS ARE OFFSITE

SPECIFIC EXCEPTION	DOCUMENTATION
Travelling to and from excursions	Risk assessment planning documentation
Students on excursions and camps	Risk assessment planning documentation
When students are offsite (not on school grounds) and unsupervised with parental permission	Risk assessment planning documentation
Students with a dual enrolment or who need to undertake intercampus travel	Risk assessment planning documentation

Where an exception is granted, the student can only use the personal mobile device for the purpose for which it was granted. A pass will be provided to the student to show on request.

CAMPS, EXCURSIONS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Brighton Secondary College will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can or cannot be brought to camps, excursions, special activities and events, including personal mobile devices.

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

BRIGHTON SECONDARY COLLEGE POLICIES

- Electronic Devices in Assessment Policy
- Code of Conduct
- Bullying Prevention Policy

REFERENCES TO DEPARTMENT POLICIES

- [Claims for Property Damage and Medical Expenses policy](#)

REVIEW CYCLE

To ensure ongoing relevance and continuous improvement, this policy will be reviewed every 3 years.



BRIGHTON
SECONDARY COLLEGE

LAST UPDATED: 23/04/2021

LAST RATIFIED BY COLLEGE
COUNCIL: NA

NEXT REVIEW DATE: 23/04/2024