

## Mobile Phones, iPods and Other Electronic Devices Policy 2020

Toogoolawah State High School supports the appropriate use of technology in learning and for safety. Parents may wish their student to have a mobile phone with them whilst travelling to and from school.

From January 2020 students are required to store their mobile phones in the mobile phone lockers provided, when they arrive at school. All students have been assigned a mobile phone locker and shown how to set their 3 digit combination lock. These lockers are organised in to year level groupings easily accessible on entry to and exit from school. The expectation is – **no access between first bell and last bell of the day**. To support students with this behaviour and to reduce the risk of damage or theft the school has provided mobile phone lockers.

The change in policy is to maximise learning time and minimise distraction. Students do not need a mobile phone in the learning environment – whether to check the time, to make calculations or to take photos. There are clocks in each classroom, calculators are essential in studying maths Year 7 -12 and a bank of Ipads is available for loan from the school library to record performances or art work. Our school office has always and continues to accept messages from parents to pass on to students.

Breaches of this policy will result in disciplinary action.

### **Schoolwide Expectation:**

**RESPONSIBILITY: Ensure my mobile phone is stored in a mobile phone locker upon arrival at school and is not accessed between the first bell and the last bell of the day.**

We have had overwhelming support from parents and community in removing mobile phones from the classroom environment.

### **Consequences for not following the school wide expectation:**

The consequences for failing to meet the expectation are that students caught accessing their phone will:

1. On the first occasion students will be directed to the office to have their phone stored for the day.
2. On the second occasion the student's phone will be require their phone to be collected by a parent from the office.
3. On the third occasion of accessing a phone during the school day, this constitutes repeated refusal to follow instructions and will result in Level 4 consequences which include but are not limited to internal suspension, external suspension, a parent meeting and a phone plan which will involve signing the phone into the office for storage each day for two weeks.

### **Note:**

Parents may call the school office to pass on urgent messages to their student otherwise students can check text messages at the end of the school day.

**The following examples of mobile phone usage are a serious breach of our Code of Behaviour and will be subject to disciplinary action and potentially police investigation**

Examples include but are not limited to:

- using the mobile device between the first bell of the school day and the last bell of the school day
- using the mobile device in an unlawful manner
- download, distribute or publish offensive messages or pictures
- use of obscene, inflammatory, racist, discriminatory or derogatory language
- use language and/or threats of violence that may amount to bullying and/or harassment, or even stalking
- insult, harass or attack others or use obscene or abusive language
- commit plagiarism or violate copyright laws
- knowingly download viruses or any other programs capable of breaching the department's network security
- use in-phone cameras anywhere a normal camera would be considered inappropriate, such as in change rooms or toilets
- invade someone's privacy by recording personal conversations or daily activities and/or the further distribution (e.g. forwarding, texting, uploading, Bluetooth use etc.) of such material
- use the mobile phone (including those with Bluetooth functionality) to cheat or take photos during class assessments
- sending of text messages or posting of statements to websites that contain obscene language and/or threats of violence may amount to bullying and or harassment or even stalking.