

# Mobile Phone/Device Policy



This policy relates to any mobile phone or device (typically with a SIM card installed) that enables phone calls and/or messages. 'Mobile phones' includes smart watches, other electronic communication devices, and associated listening accessories, such as, but not limited to, headphones and ear buds. The use of computers and tablets is governed by the "NMSHS BYOD Policy".

## Rationale

This policy has been developed in line with the Department of Education's "Student Mobile Phones in Public Schools Policy, 3 February 2020)." It is designed to improve the health and wellbeing of students by increasing levels of learning and engagement in the classroom, fostering social connections within the school, reducing the anxiety caused by device related issues, and further protecting the privacy of staff and students.

## Policy

Newton Moore Senior High School advocates the slogan: "Off and away, all day." This means that unless directed to by a staff member the use of mobile devices will not be permitted on school grounds from the time students arrive at school to when dismissed by the teacher at the conclusion of the school day, as outlined below:

- While on school grounds student communicative devices are to be turned off and secured in their carry bag. This includes the use of all associated accessories such as headphones, air buds, speakers, electronic glasses, smart watches, chargers, etc.
- Students can use a mobile device for appropriate and educational purposes if explicitly directed by a member of staff and only for the activity specified by the staff member.
- All communication between students and parents/guardians is to be initiated by school personnel.
- Unless directed to by the teacher in charge, students will not be permitted to use their mobile device during excursions and camps.

## Behaviour Support Process

Newton Moore Senior High School adopts a proactive and educative Positive Behaviour Support [PBS] system. We endeavour to support compliance amongst students in a respectful and responsible manner. Staff will apply Behaviour Support Processes including preventative strategies such as reminders, specific positive feedback, Classroom Management Strategies, PBS interventions and choice statements.

In cases where students do not respond positively to these interventions:

- The student will submit the device/accessory to the staff member who will inform Student Services.
- It will be secured in Student Services and available for the student to collect after 3pm that day. The student's parent/guardian will be formally notified of the breach.
- Further inappropriate use in will result in the parent/carer being requested to collect and remove the mobile phone from the school at their earliest convenience.
- Continued misuse will result in the student not being permitted to bring a mobile phone and/or associated items to school for a period determined by Student Services.

## Before school and break time process

- The staff member will remind the student of the appropriate and expected use of the device/accessory. The student will be instructed to immediately turn the device/accessory off and secure it in their carry bag.
- If the student does not comply or repeatedly breaches this policy, the member of staff will inform Student Services of the offence.
- Student Services will follow up using the same procedures as outlined above.

Students may need to carry a device for various purposes while travelling to and from school. A secure location in Student Services will be available for students who do not wish to carry their device on them during the day. Newton Moore Senior High School accepts no responsibility for replacing lost or damaged devices.

Where a student needs access to a device for medical purposes, an exemption will be made as part of a documented health care plan to be approved by the Principal or their delegate.

If a personal device comes into the possession of staff through enactment of this policy, care will be taken although no responsibility will be taken should the phone be damaged or become lost. The responsibility to use a mobile phone device in line with this policy remains with the student at all times.