



ASQUITH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY & EXCELLENCE – EXCEPTIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR BOYS

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Student Use of Digital Devices and Online Services Policy 2023 - Term 4 Update

Purpose

- **The NSW Government has announced restrictions** on the use of mobile phones in NSW high schools from the beginning of Term 4 2023.
- **Asquith Boys High School will be making changes** to the way mobile phones are accessed by students during the school day.
- **Mobile phones and other personal electronic devices are to be “off and away, all day”.** The new system is being implemented to increase focus in classrooms, remove distractions and to also promote positive social interactions.
- The new policy at Asquith Boys High School will apply to **mobile phones and other personal electronic devices**, while on school premises and on school-based excursions.

Scope

For the purposes of these procedures, ‘**mobile phones and other personal electronic devices**’ is inclusive of:

- **mobile phones**
- **smart watches**
- **tablets**
- **listening accessories** – such as, but not limited to, headphones, speakers and earbuds.

Students must take full responsibility for any mobile phone or similar device brought to school. The school or staff will not be responsible for their loss, theft, or damage. Students who bring their devices to school do so at their own risk.

Rationale

While mobile phones and other such devices have significant advantages for use in the broader community, their use in schools can be highly problematic. In schools, mobile phones and other personal electronic devices are significant distractors to learning and contribute to a student’s cognitive load. They can also pose a significant risk to the safety and wellbeing of students through unfiltered/unsupervised access to the Internet and social networking platforms. **The use of technology is important, but the risks and benefits need to be managed.**



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What does this look like at Asquith Boys High School?

Student Responsibilities:

- As per the NSW Government's Policy, students may not use mobile phones and other personal electronic devices while on school grounds at any time. 'School grounds' extends to school excursions, sports carnivals, and other events at the school or off-site where an approved school activity takes place unless otherwise advised.
- Mobile phones and other personal electronic devices are to be 'off and away, all day' from the time students enter school grounds in the morning until they have left school grounds at the end of the day. This includes before school, recess, and lunch times.
- Students must also switch their smartwatch to 'aeroplane mode' for the duration of the school day.
- Students who wish to use laptops at break times must do so in the library or a classroom under the supervision of a teacher.
- Students will not be allowed to use mobile phones for purchases at the canteen. They must use:
 - a card/cash to pay for purchases at the canteen, or
 - QuickCliq to pre-order prior to coming to school.

Consequences:

1. If a student is seen with their mobile phones and other personal electronic devices during the school day, **teachers will record the student on Sentral**.
2. Reception will call for the student with a pink coloured message slip to report directly to Reception and **hand over their mobile phones and other personal electronic devices**.
3. Students will be able to **collect their mobile phones and other personal electronic devices from Reception at the end of the day**.
4. **Failure to follow the discipline code will incur more severe consequences**, including detention, NoGo, Formal Caution to Suspend, or a Suspension for persistent failure to follow school procedures and the *Schools Behaviour and Discipline Procedures*, and will be dealt with under the '*Suspensions and Expulsion of School Students – Procedures 2022*'.

Parent or Caregiver Responsibilities:

Parents needing to contact their sons during the day are requested to **contact the school directly**. Any urgent message received will be forwarded to the student without delay.

Staff Responsibilities:

- If a student is seen with their mobile phone and other personal electronic devices during the school day, **teachers will record the student on Sentral**.
- Staff may allow students to use mobile phones and other personal electronic devices **for educational purposes or student health and well-being (e.g. diabetes)**.
- As a part of their roles as educators, staff are required to utilise technology to support student outcomes in many instances. **Staff will continue to apply professional judgement in modelling appropriate use of technology in line with Government Policy**.