



Purpose

To explain to our school community the Department's and Kyabram P-12 College's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones and other personal mobile devices during school hours.

Scope

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Kyabram P-12 College and,
2. Students' personal mobile phones and other personal mobile brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.

Definitions

A mobile phone is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network. For the purpose of this policy, "mobile phone" 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

At Kyabram P-12 College:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored 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 phone use

In accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#) issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used at Kyabram P-12 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.

Secure storage

Mobile phones / devices owned by students at Kyabram P-12 College are considered valuable items and are brought to school at the owner's (student's or parent/carer's) risk. Students are encouraged not to bring a mobile phone to school unless there is a compelling reason to do so. Please note that Kyabram P-12 College does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage or theft.

Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items. Refer to the Department's [Personal Goods policy.](#)

Where students bring a mobile phone to school, Kyabram P-12 College will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Kyabram P-12 College students are required to store their phones in the storage lockers located at appropriate year level locations within the college. ***

Enforcement

Students who have their mobile phones on them at Kyabram P-12 College may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing student engagement policies as per the PED Policy – First occasion: Removed from the student and for parent to pick up. Second occasion: Phone removed and not returned till a parent meeting occurs.

At Kyabram P-12 College inappropriate use of mobile phones is **any use during school hours**, unless an exception has been granted, and particularly use of a mobile phone:

- in any way that disrupts the learning of others
- to send inappropriate, harassing or threatening messages or phone calls
- to engage in inappropriate social media use including cyber bullying
- to capture video or images of people, including students, teachers and members of the school community without their permission
- to capture video or images in the school toilets, changing rooms, swimming pools and gyms
- during exams and assessments

Exceptions

Exceptions to the policy:

- may be applied during school hours if certain conditions are met, specifically,
 - Health and wellbeing-related exceptions; and
 - Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite.
- can be granted by the principal, or by the teacher for that class, in accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#).

The three categories of exceptions allowed under the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#) are:

1. Learning-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
For specific learning activities (class-based exception)	Unit of work, learning sequence, as documented in the Unit's UBD.
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 and flagged on Compass.

2. Health and wellbeing-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
Students with a health condition	Student Health Support Plan and flagged on Compass
Students who are Young Carers	A localised student record and flagged on Compass.

3. Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite

Specific exception	Documentation
Travelling to and from excursions	Risk assessment planning documentation for the event on Compass.
Students on excursions and camps	Risk assessment planning documentation for the event on Compass.
When students are offsite (not on school grounds) and unsupervised with parental permission	Risk assessment planning documentation for the event on Compass.
Students with a dual enrolment or who need to undertake intercampus travel	Risk assessment planning documentation for the event on Compass.

Where an exception is granted, the student can only use the mobile phone for the purpose for which it was granted.

Camps, excursions and extracurricular activities

Kyabram P-12 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 phones.

Exclusions

This policy does not apply to

- Out-of-School-Hours Care (OSHC)
- Out-of-school-hours events
- Travelling to and from school
- College registered BYOD devices
- Students undertaking workplace learning activities, e.g. work experience
- Students who are undertaking VET off site.

Related policies and resources

- [Student Engagement and Inclusion Policy](#)
- [Cyber Bullying Policy](#)
- [Personal Electronic Devices Policy](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)
- [Mobile Phones – Department Policy](#)
- [Ban, Search and Seize Harmful Items](#)
- [Personal Goods – Department policy](#)

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

RATIFIED BY COLLEGE COUNCIL

_____ Date: ___ / ___ / ____

College Council President

Review Date February 2023

Process for confiscation

