



# Personal Digital Device Policy

Information for Parent/Guardian/Carer and Student

**Phones**  
**away**  
**for the day**  
from 2024



## Student use of mobile devices:

- If students choose to bring their phone to school, they must **switch it off** and keep it in their bag during school hours or hand it in at the Wellbeing Centre
- Smartwatches and other devices can be worn, however notifications must be **switched off**
- This includes during lessons and break times, as well as other school activities

## How will this work at Rosewood State High School:

Every morning students will be required to switch their phone off and put it in their bag from 8:50am – 2:55pm

Phones will stay in student's bag throughout the day and cannot send or receive calls or messages.

Students will be responsible for their phone during the school day.

At the end of the school day and when leaving the school grounds, students can remove their phone from their bag and switch it on.

## Why is this happening?

This approach is being implemented in all Queensland state schools to:

- reduce distractions in the classroom
- increase face-to-face interactions between students
- promote student health and wellbeing
- reduce the potential for student exposure to negative impacts of the digital world, such as cyberbullying

## Common questions for Parent/Guardian/Carer:

What if I need to contact my child?

A call can be made directly to the school office on 5461 9400

What if my child needs to access their phone for medical, disability or wellbeing reasons?

Exemptions will be considered for these reasons on a case-by-case basis. Please speak with the school principal if your child requires an exemption

My child's phone does not connect to the internet, will they be allowed to use their phone?

**No.** All phones and wearable devices that have the ability to connect to telecommunication networks or the internet are included.

Who is responsible for my child's phone during the day?

If your child chooses to bring a phone to school, they will be responsible for the phone during the school day.

What about school excursions and camps?

This also applies to school activities such as representative sport, camps and excursions, unless an exception is made by the principal. If this is the case, information will be included in the excursion permission form.

## Common questions for students:

What if I need to contact my parent/guardian/carer?

Report to a staff member who will follow the school process and make contact with parents and carers.

What if I need to access my phone for medical, disability or wellbeing reasons?

Exemptions will be considered for these reasons on a case-by-case basis. Please speak with the school principal if you require an exemption

What can I do if I'm finding the change challenging?

Make some time to talk with your parents, or the support staff at school

Who is responsible for my mobile phone during the day?

If you chose to bring your phone to school, **you** will be responsible for your phone during the school day.

What about school excursions and camps?

This also applies to school activities such as representative sport, camps and excursions, unless an exception is made by the principal. If this is the case, information will be included in the excursion permission form.

For the purpose of this policy, personal digital devices include but are not limited to:

- |                     |                                  |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mobile phones       | earphones                        |
| Tablets             | gaming devices                   |
| iPods/media players | cameras and/or recording devices |
| Smart watches       | iPads (refer to BYOD policy)     |
| Fitness trackers    | laptops (refer to BYOD policy)   |

Allowable personal digital devices used contrary to this policy on school premises will be confiscated by school staff.

	<b>Offence</b>	<b>Consequence</b>
First offence	Device is visible on school grounds (except BYOD laptop/iPad)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Device is confiscated – collection to be arranged with parent/guardian/carer</li> </ul>
Second and subsequent offences	Device is visible on school grounds (except BYOD laptop/iPad)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Device is confiscated – collection to be arranged with parent/guardian/carer</li> <li>• Suspension</li> </ul>

Refusal to relinquish a personal digital device will result in **additional** disciplinary action.

### Special Circumstances Arrangement

Students who require the use of a personal digital device in circumstances that would contravene this policy (for example – to assist with a medical condition or other disability or for a special project) should negotiate this arrangement with the principal.

### As a Parent/Guardian/Carer - How can I help?

- Have conversations about the mobile phone and wearable device strategy with your child
- Support implementation of our school's policy, by contacting the office on 5461 9400 to contact your child during the day
- Encourage your child to report to a staff member in the first instance if they become unwell or experience an issue during the school day
- Raise any questions or concerns with school staff

### Support and resources

- [eSafety Parents](#) - learn about online safety challenges, and how to help your child have positive online experiences. Some helpful pages include:
  - [Good habits start young](#)
  - [Is your child ready for a phone or social media](#)
  - Buying a [smartphone](#) or [wearable device](#) for your child
  - [Online safety basics](#)
- [ParentLine](#) – a support service for parents and carers that includes a range of helpful articles, such as *Addiction to Technology – the Warning Signs and Social Media and Safety*.
- [Bullying. No Way!](#) - information for students, parents and schools about bullying and cyberbullying.

### Policy Declaration:

- We have read and understood the Personal Digital Device Policy

Student Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature : \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_