

VICTORIA POINT STATE HIGH SCHOOL



MOBILE PHONE AND DIGITAL DEVICE POLICY



SWITCH OFF 
TO SWITCH ON

Victoria Point State High School is committed to promoting a safe environment that aligns with the school's three core values: Respect, Integrity and Responsibility. Research indicates that personal mobile phones and digital devices are closely associated with unacceptable behaviour across all digital platforms. The use of these devices can compromise the integrity of our school's values and expectations, and they are therefore required to be switched off and out of sight during school hours.

This policy has been introduced to ensure that Victoria Point State High School's duty of care is adhered to for the safety and privacy of all students, staff and visitors and is aligned with Education Queensland 'Away for the day' mobile device policy. From the beginning of Term 1 2024, all Queensland state school students must keep their mobile phones switched off and 'away for the day' during school hours. Implementation of this policy is to increase student performance and reduce factors such as bullying, stalking and harassment.

Personal mobile phones and digital devices are required to be kept out of sight at all times throughout the school day on school premises. Notifications on wearable devices, such as Smart Watches, must be switched off so that phone calls, messages and other notifications cannot be sent or received during school hours. If a student is required to contact their parent/carer they are permitted to do so through Student Reception. In case of emergency, illness or other factors relating to a student, Victoria Point State High School staff will ensure contact is made and the necessary arrangements are coordinated.

EVERY STUDENT EVERY DAY

- Personal mobile and digital devices must not be visible at any time (including break times) inside the school premises.
- Personal earphones and headphones must not be visible at any time unless permitted by teacher with BYOD device or school device
- Hotspot and VPN use not permitted at any time.
- Approved BYOD devices are allowed with staff approval and permission (not to be accessed during lesson times without permission).

BREACH OF POLICY

- If a mobile phone or digital device is not off and out of sight a staff member will ask the student to hand their phone in at Student Reception.
- If a student refuses to hand their device in, a Red Card will be issued for a Deputy Principal to visit the class and issue consequences.
- Two (2) breaches of policy will result in the student being required to hand their phone in for the entirety of each school day for a period of time determined by the relevant Deputy Principal.
- Continual breach of policy will result in a Student Disciplinary Action.

PERSONAL MOBILE AND DIGITAL DEVICES INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO

- Mobile phones
- Earphones
- iPods/MP3 Players
- Cameras
- Voice Recorders
- Media Players
- Unapproved Laptop
- Unapproved iPads
- Unapproved Tablets

Smart Watches must be switched to "do not disturb"

EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES

Students with extenuating circumstances who require a device for medical illness or other needs must negotiate an approved arrangement with the Principal.