

Use of mobile phones and other devices by students

Cleveland District State High School has an explicit focus on improving student outcomes. The school community supports the appropriate use of technologies and displaying courtesy, consideration and respect for others whenever using electronic devices.

The school community agrees that time and space should be provided at school where technology is not permitted, and students are encouraged to engage in other social learning and development activities. Students, parents and visitors may see posters, such as the example below, around the school that clearly identify our technology-free zones and times. Please respect the community agreed expectations for these spaces and behaviours.



Bringing electronic devices* to school is not encouraged by the school because of potential for theft, damage, distraction and/or disruption to learning. However, the school accepts that parents give their children mobile phones to protect them from everyday risks involving personal security and safety. There is also increasing concern about children travelling alone on public transport or commuting long distances to school. It is acknowledged that providing a child with a mobile phone gives parents reassurance that they can contact their child if they need to speak to them urgently.

Parents are reminded that in cases of emergency, the school office remains a vital and appropriate point of contact and can ensure your child is reached quickly and assisted in any appropriate way.

* Electronic devices includes, but is not limited to, mobile phones, game devices, cameras, voice recording devices, tablets, headphones, smart watches and devices of a similar nature. The school has a separate policy for laptop devices.

Student responsibility and acceptable use

If a student has chosen to bring a mobile phone or electronic device/associated equipment to school, they must abide in accordance with the following:

- In line with the state-wide 'away for the day' policy, mobile phones, must be switched off, or on silent, and kept out of sight during school hours and other educational activities.
- Exemptions will be made available for students who require access to their mobile phone for health monitoring purposes. Please speak with the Year Level Deputy Principal regarding processes for requesting an exemption.
- Students will have the opportunity to use their mobile phone when making payments at the tuckshop, uniform shop and student counter if required.

- Headphones must not be used, and kept out of sight, during school hours unless approval has been granted through the Curriculum HOD for headphones to be used for educational purposes.
- A student not following the school's guidelines and accessing mobile phones or electronic devices during school hours will be required to hand their device into the school office for later collection. Failure to comply with this request will result in further consequences for non-compliance in line with the school's Student Code of Conduct.
- The only time a student is permitted to use a mobile phone during class time is when Principal approval has been granted through the Curriculum HOD for specific educational purposes.
- Repeated non-compliance with the state-wide 'away for the day' policy may incur further consequences in line with Cleveland District State High School's Student Code of Conduct.
- Under no circumstances will Cleveland District State High School accept responsibility for the loss/damage of any electronic device.

Confiscation of mobile phones and other electronic devices

Students may have their mobile phone or other electronic devices confiscated from them as a disciplinary consequence as outlined in the school's Student Code of Conduct. A student using a mobile phone without Principal approval will have it confiscated and will be required to hand their mobile phone into the office for collection at the end of the day. Due to safety concerns, the school will only confiscate a mobile device from a student during school hours, unless permission is granted by the parent.

In some cases a student may not be permitted to be in possession of a mobile phone, while at school for a period of time. In these instances the student is required to drop their mobile phone off at the office upon arrival to school, and collect it before departing each day.