



MOBILE PHONES POLICY

Purpose

To explain to our school community Auburn High School's policy requirements, and expectations regarding the safe and appropriate use of mobile phones by students, at school or during school activities. Our motto is "Disconnect to Connect".

Scope

This policy applies to all students at Auburn High School.

Policy

Auburn High School understands that students may bring a mobile phone to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school or to extra-curricular activities.

During school hours of 8:40 am to 3:00 pm, mobile phones must be locked securely in the student's locker.

Students are not permitted to access their mobile phones during lunchtime and recess unless otherwise authorised by a supervising teacher.

Mobile phone use

Mobile phones and headphones must not be used:

- during class, events or assemblies or in any way that disrupts the learning
- 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

Students who use their mobile phone inappropriately at school may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's *Student Welfare and Engagement Policy* and/or *Anti-bullying (including cyber-bullying bullying) and Anti-harassment Policy*.

Students who use their phone during the school day will need to surrender their phone to the teacher or staff member upon request. Confiscated mobile phones will be stored securely in the main office and will be returned at the end of the school day. **Repeated breaches or failure to surrender phone will require the student to hand in their phone to the front office at the start of each school day and collect it at the end of each day. This will occur for a nominated period of time that has been deemed reasonable by an Assistant Principal and communicated to the student. Non-compliance or serious breaches of the policy will result in a parent meeting with the Year Level Leader and/or Assistant Principal to discuss more serious sanctions (internal suspension).**

Insurance

Students are responsible for their mobile phone. Students should ensure that their lockers are always locked. Please note that Auburn High School does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items, including mobile phones that may be brought to school. Students are responsible for items brought to school.

Camps and excursions

Unless otherwise specified, students will not be allowed to bring their mobile phones on overnight school camps or excursions. Auburn High School will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can be brought to special activities and events, including mobile phones.

Review period

This policy is last updated in February 2021 and is scheduled for review in December 2021. It is based on DET policy taking account of new laws and technology and the changing school environment when required.

Related Policies and Resources

- Auburn High School *Internet Acceptable Use policy* <http://auburnhs.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Internet-Acceptable-Use-Policy2018.pdf>
- Auburn High School *Student Welfare and Engagement policy* <http://www.auburnhs.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Welfare-and-EngagementPolicy.pdf>
- Auburn High School *Anti-bullying (including cyber-bullying bullying) and Anti-harassment policy*
- <http://www.auburnhs.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/10-Auburn-HS-AntiBullying-and-Anti-Harrassment-Policy.pdf>