



HOPETOWN SCHOOL

Mobile Phone and Electronic Device Policy

The Department of Education Student Use of Digital Devices and Online Services policy has been in place since 2020. It covers student use of smartphones, smartwatches, tablets, laptops and any other device that allows connectivity to the internet and applications. The policy builds upon the important work in schools teaching young people to use digital technology in safe, responsible and respectful ways as we prepare students for life beyond the classroom.

Mobile phones and electronic devices are a part of modern society and the school accepts that many students possess mobile phones and electronic devices. All digital devices, not just mobile phones, should be used in safe, responsible and respectful ways and they can be a useful tool, especially where the issue of safety outside of school hours is concerned. Further information regarding safety can be found at <https://www.digitalcitizenship.nsw.edu.au/> and <https://www.esafety.gov.au/>

With the introduction of the policy, and to ensure the safety of students at school, the use of mobile phones/digital devices will be restricted at Hopetown School. This means the use of mobile phones by students will not be allowed during class time or whilst students are on school grounds. Primary aged students must not bring mobile phones or electronics devices of any kind to school.

Hopetown School is using the Yondr pouch system which allows students to place their phone into the pouch which allows the phone to be kept with them as well as the option to store mobile phones safely in the administration office. The Yondr pouch is electronically locked at assembly time and not unlocked until 2pm when school finishes. Any damage to the pouch will incur a cost of \$25.00.

It is expected that all students respect and abide by this school policy and it remains the students' responsibility to ensure that they are not in breach. Possible consequences of doing so may include;

- Confiscation of the device until a parent/carer can pick it up.
- Exclusion from class until the phone or device is handed in to the office or locked in the Yondr pouch.
- Suspension for Continued Disobedience.

The school accepts no responsibility for mobile phones or electronic devices that are brought to school and undertakes no responsibility to investigate their misplacement, damage, loss or theft.

Unauthorised filming or sound recording of other people may mean that the operator is in breach of the law. (Ref; Surveillance Devices Act, 2007)

Hopetown School appreciates your support in ensuring all our students are safe while attending school. If you have concerns or would like to discuss this further, please call the school on 43 532 522.

Kirsty Fulcher

Principal



Mobile Phone and Electronic Device Policy Agreement

- I acknowledge and understand the Hopetown Mobile Phone and Electronic Device Policy.
- I understand that the use of mobile phones/electronic devices that have the capacity to take photos or record videos are prohibited.
- I understand that if I bring a device to school, I will be asked to leave the item in the office for safe and secure storage and it will be returned to me at home time.
- I understand that if I am observed using a mobile device, I will be given the opportunity to voluntarily hand in the device to a staff member and/or lock the device in the Yondr pouch or further action will be taken.

Student name:

Student signature:

Date:

Parent/Carer name:

Parent/Carer signature:

Date:

