

STUDENT MOBILE PHONES IN SCHOOLS POLICY

This policy details the conditions under which mobile phones are permitted at Leeming Senior High School as of 3 February 2020. Reviewed 25 October 2024 in line with new Whole School Behaviour Policy and Good Standing Policy.

The Department of Education of Western Australia does not permit student use of mobile phones in public schools unless if for a medical reason (refer to “Request for Exemption to Student Mobile Phone Ban” application form) or teacher directed educational purpose (only in Years 11 and 12). It is important to note that it is not a requirement at Leeming Senior High School for students to have a mobile phone at school.

Leeming Senior High School recognises that parents/carers wish to provide their children with mobile phones for safety, security and/or emergency purposes when travelling to and from school. Mobile phones safety and security are the responsibility of the student/family.

For the purpose of this policy, ‘mobile phones’ includes but is not limited to smart watches, other electronic communication devices, associated listening accessories, such as headphones, ear buds, iPods, MP3/4, PSPs and other portable gaming consoles.

CONDITIONS OF USE

The use of mobile phones for all students will be banned from the time students enter and leave school grounds. This includes break times and flexi sessions (off and away all day).

Students are permitted to have mobile phones in their possession during the school day, however mobile phones must be switched off and stored either on the student, in the student’s bag or in the student’s locker (a locker application form can be applied for via Student Services). Mobiles are not to be used as a clock or diary during the school day.

Smart watches must be in ‘aeroplane mode’ so that phone calls and messages cannot be sent or received during the school day. Please refer to School Assessment policies regarding mobile devices in assessments.

COMMUNICATION AND EXEMPTIONS

- BYOD devices (iPad or MacBook/Laptop) are permitted for educational use under the direction of teachers for all classes and at recess and lunch **ONLY** in the designated BYOD precinct (the area bordered by the Administration, Student Services, English and Hospitality buildings) and the Library.
- Smart watches must be in ‘aeroplane mode’ so that phone calls and messages cannot be sent or received during the school day.
- While at Leeming Senior High School, students are the responsibility of the school. All communications between parents/carers and students, during school hours, should occur via the school’s administration on 9237 6800.

Exemptions to this ban include:

- where a student requires a mobile phone to monitor a health condition as part of a school approved documented health care plan.
- as part of a student’s documented risk management plan.
- deemed necessary by the Principal or the Principal’s delegate.

To apply for an exemption, a parent/carer must submit the “Request for Exemption to Student Mobile Phone Ban” application form to a Deputy Principal for consideration.

Leeming Senior High School has duty of care for all students when they are attending the school. In a situation where students need to get in contact with parents/carers, students are to report to Student Services or to the Administration (if Student Services is unattended). If parents/carers need to contact their children, they are asked to contact the school directly on 9237 6800.

BREACHES OF THE MOBILE PHONES IN SCHOOLS POLICY

Breaches of this policy will be managed in accordance with the Whole School Behaviour Policy and the Good Standing Policy. Students who do not comply with this policy will have their mobile phone confiscated. The student can collect the mobile phone at the end of the school day.

1st INCIDENT (OR YARD DUTY TEACHER)

- If confiscated by a classroom teacher – teacher delivers phone to and student collects from Head of the Learning Area at the end of the school day.
- If confiscated by a teacher on yard duty – teacher delivers phone to and student collects from Administration.
- Incident recorded on-Compass

2nd INCIDENT

- If confiscated by a classroom teacher – teacher delivers phone to and student collects from relevant Student Services Manager at the end of the school day.
- Incident recorded on Compass

3rd INCIDENT

- If confiscated by a classroom teacher – deliver phone to relevant Deputy Principal.
- The parent/carer will be informed and requested to collect the mobile phone from the school at their earliest convenience.
- Incident recorded on Compass and Good Standing policy implemented.

ADDITIONAL INCIDENTS

Where additional incidents are recorded after the 3rd incident, the Good Standing policy is applied and this may lead to, or contribute to, the loss of Good Standing and/or suspension.

In the case of repeated inappropriate mobile phone use by a student, the Principal may direct the withdrawing of the student’s mobile phone from the school for a determined period or permanently.