



FRANKSTON HIGH SCHOOL

MOBILES PHONES – STUDENT USE

Updated November 2022

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department's and Frankston High School's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones while on school grounds until 3.15pm (including *any time* before school, during recess and lunchtimes and when travelling between campuses).

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- All students at Frankston High School and,
- Students' personal mobile phones brought onto school premises any time before school, during recess and lunchtimes and when travelling between campuses-until 3.15pm.

DEFINITIONS

A mobile phone is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network. For the purpose of this policy, "mobile phone" refers to mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as smart watches and earbuds.

POLICY

Frankston High School understands that students may bring a personal mobile phone to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school.

At Frankston High School

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours (this includes before school until 3.15pm)
- Exceptions to this policy may be applied if certain conditions are met (see below for further information)
- When emergencies occur, parents or carers should reach their child by calling the school's office.

PERSONAL MOBILE PHONE USE

In accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#) issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used at Frankston High School while on school grounds until 3.15pm, including any time before school, lunchtime and recess and travelling between campuses, unless an exception has been granted.

Where a student has been granted an exception, the student must use their mobile phone under the supervision of a sub school member or principal team member.

SECURE STORAGE

Mobile phones owned by students at Frankston High School are considered valuable items and are brought to school at the owner's (student's or parent/carer's) risk. Students are encouraged not to bring a mobile phone to school unless there is a compelling reason to do so. Please note that Frankston High School does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage or theft and will not be held responsible for loss and/or damage (see DET *Personal Goods Policy*) <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/governance/pages/personalgoods.aspx>. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items.

Where students bring a mobile phone to school, Frankston High School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Frankston High School students are required to store their phones in their lockers.

ENFORCEMENT

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Frankston High School may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing *Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy*.

At Frankston High School inappropriate use of mobile phones is **any use while on school grounds until 3.15pm, including any time before school, lunchtime and recess**, and travelling between campuses and particularly use of a mobile phone:

- In any way that disrupts the learning of others
- 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
- To capture video or images in the school toilets, changing rooms, swimming pools and gyms
- During exams and assessments

EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions to the policy:

- May be applied during school hours if certain conditions are met, specifically
 - Health and wellbeing-related exceptions; and
 - Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite.
- Can be granted by the principal, or by the teacher for that class, in accordance with the department's [mobile phones policy](#).

The three categories of exceptions allowed under the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#) are:

Learning-Related Exceptions

| Specific exception | Documentation |
|--|---------------------------------|
| For specific learning activities (class-based exception) | Unit of work, learning sequence |
| For students for whom a reasonable adjustment to a learning program is needed because of a disability or learning difficulty | Individual Education Plan |

NOTE: if an exemption is made for learning-related reasons, phones should be used with discretion.

Health and Wellbeing-Related Exceptions

| Specific Exception | Documentation |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Students with a health condition | Student Health Support Plan |
| Students who are Young Carers | A localised student record |

Exceptions Related To Managing Risk When Students Are Offsite

| Specific Exception | Documentation |
|---|--|
| Travelling to and from excursions | Risk assessment planning documentation |
| Students on excursions and camps | Risk assessment planning documentation |
| When students are offsite (not on school grounds) and unsupervised with parental permission | Risk assessment planning documentation |
| Students with a dual enrolment or who need to undertake intercampus travel | Risk assessment planning documentation |

Where an exception is granted, the student can only use the mobile phone for the purpose for which it was granted.

CAMPS, EXCURSIONS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Frankston High School will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can or cannot be brought to camps, excursions, special activities and events, including personal mobile phones.

EXCLUSIONS

This policy does not apply to:

- Out-of-school-hours events
- Travelling to and from school
- Students undertaking workplace learning activities, e.g. work experience and external Structured Workplace Learning
- Students who are undertaking external VET to Frankston High School and whilst on

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Included in school newsletter
- Discussed at annual staff briefings/meetings
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- Student Wellbeing and Engagement – Local Policy
- Information Communication Technology and Internet Use – Local Policy
- [Mobile Phones – Department Policy -
https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/safety/pages/mobilephones.aspx](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/safety/pages/mobilephones.aspx)
- [Personal Goods – Department policy
https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/governance/pages/personalgoods.aspx](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/governance/pages/personalgoods.aspx)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Policy last reviewed | November 2022 |
| Consultation | Sub School Team – August 2022 |
| Approved by | Principal |
| Next scheduled review date | 2025 |

APPENDIX Updated 30/1/2024

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Frankston High School will be issued with consequences. The hierarchy of consequences are listed as follows:

Hierarchy of Consequences for Year 7-10 Campus when a student is using a mobile phone or wearing earphones during the school day

- 1st Offence:** Mobile phone and earphones confiscated and sent to Coordinators. Student issued with a lunch time detention. Student to collect from Coordinators Office at end of school day.
- 2nd Offence:** Mobile phone and earphones confiscated and sent to Coordinators. Student issued with an after school detention. Parent/Carer must collect from 7-10 General Office at end of school day. Student to hand phone/earphones to Coordinators Office each morning for the next 5 school days.
- 3rd Offence:** Mobile phone and earphones confiscated and sent to Coordinators. Student is issued with 2 after school detentions. Parent/Carer must collect from a Campus Principal, 7-10 General Office, at end of school day. Student to hand phone/earphones to Coordinators Office each morning for 10 school days.
- 4th Offence:** Mobile phone and earphones confiscated and sent to Coordinators. Student is issued with Community Service detentions. Parent/Carer must collect from the Principal, 7-10 General Office, at end of school day. Student to hand phone/earphones to Coordinators Office each morning until end of the term.

Hierarchy of Consequences for Senior Campus when a student is using a mobile phone or wearing earphones during the school day

School Council anticipates positive support from our school community in upholding this policy. This policy will help enhance learning outcomes for our students and we thank you for your support of this matter.

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