



Use of Personal Technology Devices v110124

No liability will be accepted by the school in the event of loss, theft or damage to any personal technology device unless it can be established that the loss, theft or damage resulted from the school's negligence. The school does not provide access to lockers. Students are responsible for securing and managing their personal technology devices throughout the day.

BYOD Laptops and iPads

BYOD Laptops and iPads are required for educational use only and are not to be used in the playground. Students must go to the Resource Centre if needing to use their BYOD to complete schoolwork before school or during lunch breaks.

During lessons, teachers will control the times when Laptops and iPads are in use and will also monitor student activities. Unrelated internet use or gaming may result in a student being required to put their device away for a period of time. Repeated BYOD misuse can result in behavioural consequences.

No Hotspotting - Students must only use the school's filtered Wi-Fi internet, not their mobile data, for all computer activities. Any hotspotting will be considered blatant defiance and will result in behavioural consequences.

Mobile Phones

Mobile Phones must be 'away for the day' – turned off and out of sight while on school premises. This also extends to wearable devices like smartwatches, which can be worn, but must have notifications switched off, so that phone calls, messages and other notifications cannot be sent or received during school hours.

This approach is being implemented in all Queensland state schools to help:

- reduce distractions in the classroom
- increase face-to-face interactions between students
- promote student health and wellbeing
- reduce the potential for student exposure to negative impacts of the digital world, such as cyberbullying.





If students need to contact their family during the school day, they should go to school Administration where staff will assist them with contacting their parent / carer.

Special Circumstances Arrangements:

Exemptions will be made available for students who require access to their mobile phone or wearable device for health monitoring or disability support purposes. Parents / carers are required to apply for an exemption by contacting their student's Deputy Principal.

Confiscations:

If a mobile phone or accessory (eg. earbuds, headphones, Bluetooth speaker, online use of a smartwatch) is seen or heard while at school, students will be required to hand the item/s in at Administration.

Confiscated mobile phones can be collected by the student at the end of the school day.

Confiscated accessories will remain at Administration until collected in person by a parent / carer, from the first instance.

Repeated mobile phone confiscations may result in additional school consequences. Refusal to hand in a mobile phone or accessory when directed by staff, is considered blatant defiance and will result in behavioural consequences.

Devices potentially containing evidence of criminal offences may be reported to the police. In such cases police may take possession of such devices for investigation purposes and students and parents will be advised to contact the Queensland Police Service (QPS) directly.

Responsible Use of Personal Technology Devices

Recording voice and Images:

Every member of the school community should feel confident about participating fully in all aspects of school life without concern that their personal privacy is being invaded by them being recorded without their knowledge or consent.

We uphold the value of trust and the right to privacy at Alexandra Hills State High School. Students using personal technology devices to record inappropriate behaviours or incidents (such as vandalism, fighting, bullying, staged fighting or pranks etc) for the purpose of dissemination among the student body or outside the school, by any means (including distribution by phone or internet posting) builds a culture of distrust and disharmony.



Students must not record images anywhere that recording would not reasonably be considered appropriate (e.g. in change rooms, toilets or any other place where a reasonable person would expect to be afforded privacy). Recording of events in class is not permitted at any time. A student at school who uses a personal technology device to record private conversations, ordinary school activities (apart from social functions like graduation ceremonies) or violent, illegal or embarrassing matter capable of bringing the school into public disrepute is considered to be in breach of this policy.

Even where consent is obtained for such recording, the school will not tolerate images or sound captured by personal technology devices on the school premises or elsewhere being disseminated to others, if it is done for the purpose of causing embarrassment to individuals or the school, for the purpose of bullying or harassment, including racial and sexual harassment, or where without such intent a reasonable person would conclude that such outcomes may have or will occur.

Students involved in:

- recording; and/or
- disseminating material (through text messaging, display, internet uploading etc); and/or,
- knowingly being a subject of a recording

Students who breach this policy may be subject to discipline (including suspension and recommendation for exclusion).

Students should note that the recording or dissemination of images that are considered indecent (such as nudity or sexual acts involving children), is against the law and if detected by the school, will result in a referral to QPS.

Recording Private Conversations and the Invasion of Privacy Act 1971:

It is important that all members of the school community understand that under the Invasion of Privacy Act 1971, 'a person is guilty of an offence against this Act if the person uses a listening device to overhear, record, monitor or listen to a private conversation'. It is also an offence under the Act for a person who has overheard, recorded, monitored or listened to a conversation to which s/he is not a party, to publish or communicate the substance or meaning of the conversation to others.

Students need to understand that some conversations are private and therefore to overhear, record, monitor or listen to such private conversations may be in breach of this Act, unless consent to the recording is appropriately obtained.

SMS and Social Media communication:

The sending of text messages or social media posts that contain obscene language and/or threats of violence may amount to bullying and or harassment or even stalking, and will subject the sender to



discipline and possible referral to QPS. Students receiving such text messages or social media posts at school or at home, should ensure they keep the message as evidence and bring the matter to the attention of the school office.

Assumption of cheating:

Personal technology devices may not be taken into or used by students at exams. Staff will assume students in possession of such devices during exams or assessments are cheating. Disciplinary action will be taken against any student who is caught using a personal technology device to cheat during exams.