



Managing Electronic Devices in School

Rationale

In a world that is increasingly connected, Corinda State High School takes a pro-active approach to ensuring students are taught about the appropriate and safe use of personal technologies through curriculum programs and through our policies and procedures. The focus on personal responsibility around appropriate and safe use of these technologies is considered to be central to embracing our sense of community while at school. At Corinda one of our key values is an orderly learning environment and these procedures have been put in place to reinforce this.

The Corinda State High School Electronic Device Policy restricts the use of mobile phones/electronic devices (including wearable devices such as smart watches, handheld devices and other emerging technologies which have the ability to connect to telecommunication networks or the internet and headphones). This does not apply to laptop / tablet computers and these come under the Corinda State High School Acceptable Use Policy. If a parent needs to contact a student during the school day, they are able to contact the office and a message will be forwarded to the student directly. It is understood that students may need a mobile phone before or after school for safety reasons. For this purpose they will be able to use their phone once they are unlocked as they exit the school.

School Expectations:

- All students will be provided with a Yondr pouch to secure their device for the duration of their enrolment.
- The school issued pouch is seen to be part of the school uniform, and students are expected to have their Yondr pouch at school every day.
- This pouch remains the property of the school and students are responsible for maintaining the pouch in workable condition.
- Loss or destruction of the pouch will result in the student being charged for a replacement pouch.
- On entry to school all phones are required to be switched off and placed in the Yondr pouch.
- Bluetooth earphones are not part of the school uniform and are to be stored in the Yondr pouch. Bluetooth earphones are not to be stored in pockets or under shirts.
- Students are required to have devices in their Yondr pouch while at school and they are not to be left unsecured (e.g. in bag racks/unattended).
- Students are required to place smart watches in their Yondr pouch when undertaking assessment.
- Notifications on wearable devices, such as but not limited to Smartwatches, must be switched off so that phone calls, messages and other notifications cannot be sent or received during school hours.



- Students found accessing smartwatches to engage in social media calls and texting during school time will be required to submit their Yondr pouch to the administration each day with the wearable device secured in their Yondr pouch.
- Students are able to use electronic devices under the strict supervision of a teacher if they are used for educational purposes. Teachers will have access to the de-activation utility to release devices from the pouch for the lesson. They will be returned to the pouch and secured prior to leaving the classroom.
- Some students with disabilities may have, as part of their Personalised Learning Plan, access to these devices in the classroom to support their education. When accessing the device/s they must respect the rules and conditions discussed when creating the plan.

Exemptions:

Students with individual circumstances have the opportunity to obtain an approved exemption. They must only use their mobile phone or wearable device for the intended, approved purpose.

Consideration of individual circumstances are given to students who require temporary or ongoing exemptions to the school's Electronic Device Policy, Including where:

- The mobile phone or wearable device is used by the student to monitor or manage a medical condition (in accordance with the Managing students' health support needs at school procedure)
- The mobile phone or wearable device is used as an agreed reasonable adjustment for a student with disability or learning difficulties
- The mobile phone or wearable device is used by the student as an augmentative or alternative communication system or as an aide to access and participate in the environment, E.g. Navigation or object/people identification applications.

A request for an exemption received from students or parents will be considered on a case-by-case basis. When considering an exemption request, the school may seek additional information to support the need for the student to access their mobile phone or wearable device during the school day.

Procedures – In Class:

First Offence:

- If a student is found using a device without permission or refuses to secure their device in a Yondr pouch, the student will be referred to the Dean and the device will be confiscated. The student will be required to submit their device in the secure pouch to the Dean at the start of each day for the following four-week period. This will be recorded as 'technology violation' on the student's behaviour record. Students will be required to undertake a Home Detention Reflection Tool providing relevant responses to identified stimulus.



Second Offence:

- The item will be confiscated and the student referred to the Dean and dealt with as above. This will be recorded as a 'repeated technology violation' on the student's behaviour record. The student will be required to submit their device in the secure pouch to the Dean at the start of each day for the length of one term (10 weeks). Students will also be required to write out the Policy document and attend an interview with the Dean to discuss the ongoing refusal to follow a reasonable instruction.

Repeated Offences:

- Repeated offences will be referred to the administration and will be recorded as failure to comply with school rules, repeated technology violation and for behaviour which impacts on the good order and management of the school. Repeated offences may result in suspension at the Principal's discretion and possibly recommendation for exclusion. On return from suspension the student will be required to leave their belongings with the Dean during class for the duration of the school day. They will be expected to collect and return the resources they require for each class during break times. This will be a requirement for the duration of the school term (minimum 4-week period - if near the end of term).
- Students need to be reminded that a suspension from school means they automatically become ineligible for School Representation.