

Mobile Phone and Personal Technology Devices Policy 2023

Rochedale State School clearly states in the Student Code of Conduct that the use of personal mobile phones and technology devices within the school by students is strictly prohibited.

Please refer to the School Website to view the Rochedale State School Student Code of Conduct, <https://rochedalss.eq.edu.au/SupportAndResources/FormsAndDocuments/Documents/student-code-of-conduct.pdf#search=Student%20code%20of%20conduct>

The following table outlines examples of minor and major behaviour incidents:

Area	Minor	Major
Mobile Phone or personal technology devices.	Mobile phone or smart watch not handed in at the office.	<p>The use of a mobile phone or personal technology device in any part of the school for phone calls, voicemail, email, text messaging, taking photos, recording (audio or visual) or filming purposes without authorisation.</p> <p>Inappropriate use of personal technology devices or social networking sites, which impacts on the good order and management of the school.</p>

Use of mobile phones and other personal technology devices by students

Digital literacy refers to the skills needed to live, learn and work in a society where communication and access to information is dominated by digital technologies like mobile phones. However, the benefits brought about through these diverse technologies can be easily overshadowed by deliberate misuse which harms others or disrupts learning.

Rochedale State School does accept that genuine safety concerns exist which require a phone to be in the property of some students as they travel to and from school, therefore the school has adopted the following policy:

1. The school accepts no responsibility for mobile phones or other electronic devices, including smart watches that are brought to school which are not handed into the office; and undertakes no responsibility to investigate their misplacement, loss or alleged theft. Loss or damage of devices are not covered by school insurance.
2. Mobile phones are to be switched off as the student enters the school grounds. Mobile phones, or other electronic devices, equipped with camera functions are not to have that function accessed at ANY time whilst on school property.
3. All electronic devices, including but not limited to mobile phones, iPad, tablets, smart watches, cameras are to be signed into the office at 8.30am and stored by office staff in the secured storeroom. Electronic devices can be collected only by the student or parent at 2.50pm, or on departure from the school in the case of early departure.
4. Where parents need to contact their children during the school day, the school's phone number is the appropriate way to make contact.

5. Where students need to contact their parent during the school day, the student is required to ask at the office for contact to be made.

Breaches of the Policy:

Where a mobile phone or other electronic device is seen by a teacher in class, assembly, lunch breaks or during school hours, the device will be confiscated by the teacher and secured in the school office.

Students will collect the device from the office at the end of the day.

Parents will be contacted to discuss the breach of the policy which may result in consequences as part of the Student Code of Conduct.

Student and Parent Responsibilities

Students Responsibilities:

- Mobile phones are brought to school at entirely the owner's risk. The school will not be involved in disputes and/or investigations over damage, loss or theft.
- Phones/electronic devices, this includes smart watches, must be handed in at the office at the beginning of the school day.
- Due to privacy considerations, phone or watch cameras or audio/ visual recording devices cannot be used whilst at school.
- Phones are not to be taken on excursions or camps.
- Students breaching the policy will be subject to the student behaviour management consequences as documented in the Student Code of Conduct.
- Should the rules be breached, the student will be instructed to pass the phone to the office for the rest of the day.
- If procedures continue to not be followed, the phone will be confiscated from the student and the parent will be asked to collect the phone from the office.

Parent responsibilities:

- Reinforce that phones are to be kept at the office and turned off at all times, whilst on school premises.
- Parents are to contact students during the school day, through the office, not by mobile.

Exemptions to the Mobile Phone and Personal Technology Devices Policy

There may be exceptional circumstances that would require a student to be exempt from the Mobile Phone and Personal Technology Devices Policy, such as a medical condition.

Please contact the principal for approval to have a mobile phone and/or personal technology device during school hours. Approval can only be given by the principal.