



Arthur Phillip High School

2025

Latest Revision

Date: 19th December
2024

By: Linda Macleod

Mobile Device Policy

Vision Statement

Arthur Phillip High School is committed to promoting learning excellence in an inclusive, innovative, technology-rich environment. Our collaborative, future-focused approach empowers students to pursue excellence as they build essential skills to succeed in a technologically sophisticated global community of the future. We have a long tradition as a pioneer in the integration of technology to enhance the learning experiences of all students. This pioneering approach will culminate in the occupation of our new future focused, multi storey school purposely built to foster an online, interactive, digital learning environment that facilitates collaborative, and critical and creative thinking skills essential for the development of active informed global citizens.

Overview

Arthur Phillip High School is a **BYOD** (bring your own device) and technology rich school, integrating technology across a broad range of teaching and learning experiences. Through the facilitation of our **Connected 121** policy all students have the opportunity to purchase or borrow a personal device in

the form of a Chromebook to ensure easy procurement of technological tools both in and out of the classroom. Through the online learning platforms students have 24-hour access to the curriculum, courses, topics and learning experiences on offer at Arthur Phillip High School. Similarly, teachers use online learning platforms to give students both timely, and thorough, feedback vital to academic growth and success. There is no need for students to bring any other mobile device to school (other than their laptop) for learning

Whilst the school understands the potential benefits for learning on mobile devices such as phones and, experience has shown that there are many distractions and subsequent incidents that result from them. The school has undertaken consultation with the school community about the impact these devices may have on student learning. The results of these surveys showed:

- 64% of parents felt negative about student phone use in the classroom compared with 36% seeing it as a positive.
- 88% of teachers felt that Phones had a negative impact on student learning and 92% disagreed with students having access to them during class time.
- Student survey data showed that 67% of students saw no educational value in mobile devices in the classroom, while 14% specifically commented that they made a negative impact on their learning (it should be noted there were 802 student responses to this survey).

An analysis of school behavioural data until early December for 2023 showed 528 reports from teachers logging classroom incidents relating to mobile device misuse (24% of all incidents for the year). This was also the biggest area of concern for student behaviour and disruption to learning.

These procedures align with the NSW DoE Mobile Phones in Schools Policy

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/pd-2023-0480-01>

Mobile Device Policy

Arthur Phillip High School's mobile device policy for revision in 2025 will consist of the following:

1. Key Principles

- 1.1 The term 'device' in this policy refers to a personal mobile phone, or any device capable of communicating independent of the school's network (e.g. Smart Watch)

2. Student Responsibilities

2.1 Students are responsible for securing their device in their bag before entering school grounds at the beginning of the school day and removing it at the end of the day once they have exited school grounds.

2.2 Students must keep their device in their bag for the duration of the school day.

2.3 Should a student be found to have a device not in their bag it will be confiscated and locked in the school safe. Student's parents/carers will be contacted and the device returned to a parent/carer at an appropriate time.

2.4 Students should ensure that they have turned off any hotspot or mobile internet capabilities to avoid the device being used to circumvent the school firewalls and internet security protocols.

3. Damage and Loss

3.1 Students bring their devices onto the school site at their own risk.

3.2 In case of malicious damage or theft of another student's device, existing DoE and school disciplinary processes for damage to the school's or another student's property apply.

4. Insurance

4.1 Student devices are not covered by Departmental or School Insurance. As mobile devices are subject to a higher risk of loss or accidental damage, prior to signing up for an insurance policy, students should be fully aware of the details and limitations of the policy, including any excess charged for making a claim, and the name of the company that holds the policy. As a guide, a suitable device insurance policy should cover all types of devices and provide worldwide, replacement cost coverage.


5. Acceptable use of Mobile Devices.

5.1 Using the DoE network services to seek out, access, store or send any material of an offensive, obscene, pornographic, threatening, abusive or defamatory nature is prohibited. Such use may result in legal and/or disciplinary action.

5.2 Students shall not create, transmit, retransmit or participate in the circulation of content on their devices that attempts to undermine, hack or bypass any hardware and software security mechanisms that have been implemented by the Department, its Information Technology Directorate, or the school.

5.3 Students must not copy, transmit or retransmit any material that is protected by copyright, without prior permission from the copyright owner.

5.4 Mobile phone, voice and text, SMS messaging or device instant messaging used by students during and between lessons is not permitted.

5.5 Students must not take photos, or make video, or audio recordings of any individual, or group without the express written permission of each individual (including parent/carer consent for minors) being recorded and the permission of an appropriate staff member. 

5.6 The consequences of any breaches of this policy will be determined by the principal, in accordance with the NSW DoE and school's welfare and discipline policies.

5.7 Arthur Phillip High School supports the Department of Education in the way it conducts surveillance and monitoring of its computer systems to ensure ongoing confidentiality, integrity and availability of services.