

8th September, 2023

Dear parents, caregivers and students,

The NSW Government has announced restrictions on the use of mobile phones and smart devices (smart watches, air pods etc.) in NSW high schools beginning in Term 4, 2023.

The Jannali High School will be making changes to the way mobile phones and smart devices are accessed by students during the school day. The new system is being implemented to increase focus in classrooms, remove distractions and to also promote positive social interaction, while reducing the potential for online bullying.

Important changes coming in Term 4

The new mobile phone and smart device management plan at The Jannali High School will apply to mobile phones and smart devices (smart watches, airpods etc.) and will be enforced during all school hours, including break times such as during lunch and recess, as well as while students are on school-based excursions and sport.

Students will still be able to carry their mobile and smart device phones while travelling to and from school.

The principal or senior executive may grant an exemption for special circumstances to support students with formally diagnosed health conditions. Caregivers will need to submit an application for exemption supported by appropriate medical certificates for consideration. If approved, students will be able to access their mobile phone device under supervised conditions.

Restrictions for Mobile Phone Access – “Off and Away, Gate to Gate”

After careful consideration with our key stakeholders including the Student Representative Council (SRC), P&C, staff and executive teams, we have decided to implement the approach of mobile phones and smart devices “Off and Away, Gate to Gate”. This means mobile phones must be turned off and in school bags during school hours.



What does this mean?

- Students **will not** be able to use digital bank cards on their phone for purchases at the school canteen. To access these facilities, students will need to have a physical debit card or cash.
- Students **will not** be able to check their timetables on their phones. They should access Sentral via their iPad or carry a hard copy of their timetable in their bags. New hard copy timetables will be issued Term 4, day 1.
- Students **will not** be able to receive message from their employer throughout the school day. It is important for students to communicate this with their employer before the start of Term 4.
- Students **will not** be able to receive messages from their parents throughout the school day. If your child needs to be contacted, this can be done through the front office.
- At school iPads (Year 7-10) and Macbooks (Year 11-12) will continue to be used during class time for learning. These devices will not be permitted to be used in the playground during recess and lunch.

We are excited to make our school a mobile phone-free space to improve learning and engagement, however, we will always make sure you can contact your child in an emergency. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school directly on 9521 2805. There will also be further information posted on school communication platforms.

Sincerely,

Rick Coleman
Principal