



# Rosehill Secondary College

## Mobile Phones Policy – Student Use

### 1. PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department's and Rosehill's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones and other personal mobile devices during school hours.

### 2. SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Rosehill Secondary College and,
2. Students' personal mobile phones and other personal mobile devices, brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.

### 3. DEFINITIONS

**A mobile phone** is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network. For the purpose of this policy, "mobile phone" refers to mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as "smart watches, iPads and cordless headphones and air pods."

### 4. POLICY

Rosehill Secondary College understands that students may bring a personal mobile phone to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school.

At Rosehill Secondary College:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored in their locker during school hours, 8:55am – 3:10pm.
- Exceptions to this policy may be applied if certain conditions are met (see below for further information).
- When emergencies occur, parents or carers can reach their child by calling the school office on 9337 2488. Students should also contact parents or carers via the school's office.

### PERSONAL MOBILE PHONE USE

In accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#) issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used at Rosehill Secondary College during school hours, including lunchtime and recess, unless an exception has been granted.

If a student is leaving school early, they are to wait until they are off campus to access their personal device. The same for later arrival. When on the school grounds during school hours, students are not to use their mobile device.

Where a student has been granted an exception, the student must use their mobile phone for the purpose for which the exception was granted, and in a safe, ethical and responsible manner.

### SECURE STORAGE

Mobile phones owned by students at Rosehill Secondary College are considered valuable items and are brought to school at the owner's (student's or parent/carer's) risk. Students are encouraged not to bring a mobile phone to school unless there is a compelling reason to do so. Please note that Rosehill Secondary College does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage or theft. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items. Refer to the Department's [Claims for Property Damage and Medical Expenses Policy](#)

Where students bring a mobile phone to school, Rosehill Secondary College will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Rosehill Secondary College students are required to store their phones in their lockers.

## ENFORCEMENT

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Rosehill Secondary College may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's Student Code of Conduct and the Department's [Ban, Search and Seize Harmful Items Policy](#) relating to 'other items'. This states that staff "should instruct the student to hand over the item(s) and if the student refuses to hand over the items, implement the relevant disciplinary provision" within the Student Code of Conduct.

At Rosehill Secondary College inappropriate use of mobile phones is **any carriage or use of phone or other prohibited electronic devices during school hours**, unless an exception has been granted, and particularly use of a mobile phone:

- that brings the students or the college into disrepute
- in any way that disrupts learning
- to send inappropriate, harassing or threatening messages or phone calls
- to engage in inappropriate social media use including cyber bullying
- to capture video or images or audio during school hours
- to upload footage of students in school uniform
- to capture video or images of people, including students, teachers and members of the school community without their permission
- to capture video or images in the school toilets, changing rooms, swimming pools and gyms
- during exams and assessments

**If students are found to have their phone with them during the school day, even on silent or turned off, staff will confiscate the phone, and it will be taken to the general office to be picked up by a parent or carer. The office staff will call to notify them:**

- A fourth confiscation within one year will also incur contact from an Assistant Principal, and a Principal's Detention
- Fifth and subsequent confiscations will incur the above penalties, accompanied by suspension

Refusal to hand over a device will result in confiscation by a member of staff, parent collection of the device and a Principal's Detention. A suspension will be imposed in addition to the above should this refusal happen again.

## EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions to the policy:

- may be applied during school hours if certain conditions are met, specifically,
  - Health and wellbeing-related exceptions; and
  - Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite.
- can be granted by the principal, or by the teacher for that class, in accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#).

Where an exception is granted, the student can only use the mobile phone for the purpose for which it was granted.

## CAMPS, EXCURSIONS & EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Rosehill Secondary College will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can or cannot be brought to camps, excursions, special activities and events, including personal mobile phones.

## 5. EVALUATION

This policy will be approved annually and reviewed every three years.

## REFERENCES AND RELATED DOCUMENTS:

- [Mobile Phones in Schools](#)
- [Weapons — Banning, Searching and Seizing Harmful Items Policy](#)
- [Claims for Property Damage and Medical Expenses Policy](#)

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL:

Policy last reviewed	26 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	March 2028