

POLICY – February 2023



LILYDALE HEIGHTS
COLLEGE

Mobile Phones- Students

REVIEW 2022

CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

Victorian government schools are child safe environments. Lilydale Heights College actively promote the safety and wellbeing of all students, and all school staff are committed to protecting students from abuse or harm in the school environment, in accordance with their legal obligations including child safe standards. All schools have a Child Safety Code of Conduct consistent with the Department's exemplar available

at <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/protect/Pages/childsafestandards.aspx>

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department's and Lilydale Heights College policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones during school hours

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Lilydale Height College and,
2. Students' personal mobile phones brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.

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 and headphones/earbuds."

POLICY

At Lilydale Heights College:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours "This includes before school"
- When emergencies occur, parents or carers should reach their child by calling 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 Lilydale Heights College during school hours, including lunchtime and recess.

SECURE STORAGE

Mobile phones owned by students at Lilydale Heights 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. Lilydale Heights 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.

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

ENFORCEMENT

A student who fails to comply with the policy will be instructed to hand their phone into the office by staff. If the student refuses to hand over the items, they will be in breach of the Code of Conduct and appropriate disciplinary actions will be applied. After communication with a parent/guardian the phone may be returned to the student.

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Lilydale Heights College will receive **consequences** consistent with our school's existing **Student Wellbeing and Engagement and Code of Conduct Policy**.

EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions to the policy 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 AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Lilydale Heights 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.

EXCLUSIONS

This policy does not apply to:

- Out-of-School-Hours Care (OSHC)
- Out-of-school-hours events
- Travelling to and from school
- Students undertaking workplace learning activities, e.g. work experience
- Students who are undertaking VET Students off site.

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Mobile Phones – Department Policy](#)
- [Ban, Search and Seize Harmful Items](#)
- [Personal Goods – Department policy](#)

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was last updated on October and is scheduled for review on October 2022.

This policy was last ratified by Policy & Planning in....	February 2023
This policy was last ratified by School Council in....	March 2023