

# PERSONAL MOBILE DEVICES

## PURPOSE

To explain to our school community Diamond Valley College's policy requirements, and expectations regarding the safe and appropriate use of personal mobile devices by students, at school or during school activities.

## SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Diamond Valley College and,
2. All personal mobile devices that have not been approved by Diamond Valley College and/or classroom teacher for the purpose of carrying out and engaging in the teaching and learning of the curriculum.

## DEFINITIONS

**Personal mobile devices** are portable computing and communication devices such as smartphones, tablet computers and smart watches.

## POLICY

Diamond Valley College understands that students may bring a personal mobile device to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school or to extra-curricular activities.

- **Whilst on school grounds** personal mobile **phones** must be switched off, and locked securely in the student's locker.

### Personal mobile device use

Personal mobile devices must not be used:

- The use of mobile phones during school hours is banned at the College. This is designed to help students improve their concentration in class, build stronger relationships with their peers and ultimately improve their mental health. As such, we strongly discourage students from bringing their phones to school. If students choose to do so, mobile phones must be turned off stored in lockers during the day. The College accepts no responsibility for loss, theft or damage to mobile phones. If students are found to be using their phones during school hours, the phone will be confiscated for the remainder of the day; it will need to be collected from a member of the Principal Team at the end of the school day.
- during class or assemblies or in any way that disrupts the learning of others
- 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 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 gym
- during exams and assessments.

Students who use their personal mobile device inappropriately at school may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's *Student Wellbeing and Engagement* and/or *Bullying* policies.

Any mobile phone that is confiscated will be stored securely at the Principal or Assistant Principals office. In these circumstances, the mobile device will usually be returned to the student or their parent/carer at the end of the school day.

### **Mobile Phone Policy Consequences for inappropriate mobile phone use:**

1<sup>st</sup> Confiscated & note on Compass Chronicle

2<sup>nd</sup> Phone call to parent, by the principal class, Lunch detention (12:30: 12:50)

3<sup>rd</sup> Parent to pick up phone – After School Detention– 45 mins (3:10- 3:55pm)

4<sup>th</sup> Saturday Detention (2hours)

5<sup>th</sup> Suspension

### **Emergencies**

In emergencies, parents can contact their children through the school office.

### **Exemptions**

There may be circumstances in which a student may apply to the Principal for an exemption from this policy on the basis of safety and/or wellbeing requirements particular to that student. If this is the case, please contact the Principal or Assistant Principal, **in writing to request the exemption.**

### **Insurance**

Students are responsible for their personal mobile device. Please note that the Diamond Valley College does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items, including personal mobile devices that may be brought to school. Students are responsible for items brought to school.

### **Camps and excursions**

In most circumstances, students will not be allowed to bring their personal mobile device on overnight school camps or excursions. Diamond Valley College will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can be brought to special activities and events, including personal mobile device.

## **RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES**

Related policies include

- *Student Wellbeing and Engagement*,
- Digital Technologies (Internet, Social Media and Digital Devices)
  
- School Policy and Advisory Guide: [Students Using Mobile Phones](#)
- [School Policy and Advisory Guide: Ban, Search and Seize Harmful Items](#)

## **REVIEW PERIOD**

This policy was last updated **in March 2021** and is scheduled for review on 2023 or prior if required