



JOHN MONASH SCIENCE SCHOOL

MOBILE PHONES – STUDENT USE

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department's and John Monash Science School's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones during school hours.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at John Monash Science School and,
2. Students' personal mobile phones [and other personal mobile devices] 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."

POLICY

John Monash Science School understands that students may bring a personal mobile phone to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school.

At John Monash Science School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours

- Exceptions to this policy may be applied if certain conditions are met (see below for further information)
- 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 John Monash Science School during school hours, including lunchtime and recess, unless an exception has been granted.

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 John Monash Science School 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 John Monash Science School 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 [Personal Goods policy.](#))

Where students bring a mobile phone to school, John Monash Science School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At John Monash Science School students are required to store their phones in the acrylic phone holders located on the inside of their locker door. JMSS will provide every student with a combination lock that has a code that can be reset by the student. This lock is the property of JMSS and must be returned at the end of each calendar year.

Enforcement

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at John Monash Science School may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing student Behaviour Management Policy and Procedures policy

At John Monash Science School inappropriate use of mobile phones is **any use during school hours**, unless an exception has been granted, and particularly the use of a mobile phone:

- 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 gyms
- during exams and assessments

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](#).

The three categories of exceptions allowed under the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#) are:

1. Learning-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation		
For specific learning activities (class-based exception)	KLA	Subject	Mobile Phone Use
	Science and IT	Enrichment Sciences EEI Chemistry Biology Physics Psychology	<p>Take photos and video of laboratory</p> <p>Share laboratory work with partners</p> <p>Access Subject appropriate apps</p> <p>Complete quizzes using platforms such as Kahootz</p>
		Virtual Reality	Phones are needed to test and run VR applications
		Computing	Machine Learning units require photos to be taken for evidence/archival purposes
	PE	12 PE	Video Analysis is a major part of Skill Analysis & Biomechanics - Phones needed extensively for these AOS.
		11 and 12 PE	Fitness Tracking Apps. Used with HR Monitors
	English	All subjects	<p>E book reading</p> <p>Kahootz</p> <p>Group work (photos, research)</p>

	Humanities	Issues Studies	Pokemon Go Photography Google Maps/ Street view/ Sketch Up Mentimeter/ Kahootz Relevant subject related Apps Audio recording
		Geography	Google Maps and mapping tasks Photography Relevant subject related apps Video
	Maths		Kahootz Photos

2. Health and wellbeing-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
Students with a health condition	The AP Student Empowerment has an active register of any students at JMSS who have a health condition
Students who are Young Carers	The AP Student Empowerment has an active register of any students at JMSS who are young carers

3. Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite

Specific exception	Documentation
Travelling to and from excursions	Mobile Phones are permitted
Students on excursions and camps	This will be outlined for each camp or excursion in the risk assessment for that event
When students are offsite (not on school grounds) and unsupervised with parental permission	Mobile Phones are permitted
Students with a dual enrolment or who need to undertake intercampus travel	Mobile Phones are permitted

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

John Monash Science School 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 events
- Travelling to and from school
- Wearable devices e.g. fit-bits
- Laptops and all other personal devices
- Students undertaking workplace learning activities, e.g. work experience
- Students who are undertaking VET

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- JMSS Behaviour Management Policy and Procedures 2020
- [Mobile Phones – Department Policy](#)

4. Sanctions for Non-Compliance

Non-compliance for the first time:

- The phone will be confiscated by the teacher, and kept until the end of the day.
- The confiscated phone will be kept in a secure storage place at the General Office.
- A register of the confiscation will be kept in the General Office.
- The teacher will make a Compass post about the confiscation.
- The teacher will also communicate the offence to the House Leader.
- A Work Management Session will be issued by the House Leader.
- The parent(s) will be contacted and informed of the offence.
- The student will collect the phone from the General Office at the end of the day.

Non-compliance for the second time:

- The phone will be confiscated by the teacher, and will be kept in a secure storage place at the General Office.
- A register of the confiscation will be kept in the General Office.
- The teacher will make a Compass post about the confiscation.
- The teacher will inform the House Leader of the offence.
- House Leaders will contact the parents, and the parents will be asked to come to the school for a meeting. The parents will collect the phone then and will reach an agreement with the House Leaders about the implications of any further offences.
- The phone will only be returned to the student with the parent's permission.
- The phone will not be returned until the meeting between the parents, the school and the student takes place.
- The student will be issued with 2 Work Management sessions by the House leader.

Further non-compliance:

- Any subsequent breach of the Mobile Phone Policy will immediately trigger another contact with the parents.
- The phone will be confiscated and will be kept in secure storage in the General Office.
- A register of the confiscation will be kept in the General Office.
- The teacher will make a Compass post about the confiscation.
- Parents will be contacted and requested to attend a meeting with the House leader and Assistant Principal (Student Empowerment and Achievement).
- Mobile phone will be handed to the General office daily until further notice, and student will also attend 3 Work Management sessions. Students will also be offered counselling and advice.

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was last updated on 12th November 2019 and is scheduled for review towards the end of Term One 2020, after a full school term of operation, and then again on 12th November 2022, unless revisions are warranted at an earlier time.