



# CENTENARY STATE HIGH SCHOOL



## Mobile Phone and Wearable Device Policy



Centenary State High School is a Positive Education school. Our moral purpose is “To foster positive relationships and a strong sense of belonging so that all learners flourish”. Central to belonging and achievement at Centenary SHS is connecting with others, engaging minds and developing healthy habits.

Centenary SHS is a mobile phone and wearable device-free school. All Queensland state school students are required to keep their mobile phones switched off and “away for the day” during school hours. Notifications on wearable devices, such as smartwatches, must be switched off so that phone calls, messages and other notifications cannot be sent or received during school hours. All headphones required for learning at school are those suitable for wired connection to a school-approved BYOD learning device.

The Mobile Phone and Wearable Device Policy commenced full implementation from 22 January 2024. After a successful trial was implemented in Term 1 2026, the policy is being updated based on a comprehensive review through consultation with students, staff and parents. This policy change is reflected in the expectations sections below.

### Mobile Phone and Wearable Device Expectations

We want all students to flourish and feel a sense of belonging to our school. Our focus for mobile phones and wearable devices is to develop student agency – where students exercise personal responsibility within the policy expectations.

The intent of the original policy is to establish and maintain an interruption-free focus on educational achievement and a healthy approach to student wellbeing and engagement. This policy update continues with this intent by:

- providing optimal learning and teaching environments
- encouraging increased face-to-face social interactions between students
- promoting the health and wellbeing of students through increased social interactions and physical activity
- reducing the potential for students to be exposed to the negative impacts of the digital world, resulting from unsafe or inappropriate technology and social media use.

This policy update applies to mobile phones and hand-held or wearable electronic devices. This includes Bluetooth devices, AirPods/headphones, smartwatches, personal gaming stations and hand-held devices that do not meet the requirements of the school approved BYOD learning equipment.

All students are expected to comply with this policy while at school and when representing the school, or on a school activity, camp or excursion.

### The school expectation with respect to mobile phones and wearable devices is as follows:

- **Students who bring a phone to school** must turn off their phone and place this device out of sight from the first bell of the day (8:50am) to the last bell of the day (3:00pm). The exception to this expectation is as follows: during all staff-directed or staff-supervised activities/areas before or after school, phones must be out of sight. Before-school and after-school activities include sport training and music rehearsals. Before-school and after-school areas include CPAC, Sports Hall and the Resource Centre. In effect, this means phones must be out of sight in CPAC, Sports Hall and the Resource Centre at all times when on the school grounds
- **Wearable smartwatches** are required to be switched to flight mode, with notifications, incoming and outgoing calls and messages disabled. Students will be required to submit any smartwatch not switched to flight mode to the school’s Administration Office.
- **For medical necessity** e.g., blood glucose monitoring – this will form part of the school medical management plan and will be recorded as a Medical Support. Students will be issued with a pass for their device. Students

who have a medical exemption will be expected to only access their device in accordance with the timelines and conditions as agreed to in their signed medical management plan. Medical support will also be entered into a student's personalised learning record.

### Processes for Non-Compliance with the Mobile Phone and Wearable Device Policy

This Mobile Phone and Wearable Device Policy has been developed in line with the Queensland Government advice. This policy has been developed considering the feedback from parents/carers, students and staff. As a result of this requirement, the Mobile Phone and Wearable Device Policy will be implemented with fidelity.

#### Non-Compliance with Policy – First Infringement

- Students found using a device will be instructed by staff to hand in their phone at the office. Parents will be advised by the Year Level Deputy Principal.
- This will be recorded on OneSchool as non-compliance with the Mobile Phone and Wearable Device Policy. The device will be secured at the school's Administration Office for collection by the student at the conclusion of the school day.
- NOTE: If students do not comply with a staff member's instruction to hand in the phone to the office at the outset, further consequences may apply in alignment with the Student Code of Conduct.

#### Non-Compliance with Policy – Second Infringement

- Students found using a device will be instructed by staff to hand in their phone at the Administration Office. Parents/carers will be advised by the Year Level Deputy Principal.
- This will be recorded on OneSchool as repeated non-compliance with the Mobile Phone and Wearable Device Policy. The device will be secured at the school's Administration Office for collection by the student at the conclusion of the school day.
- An after-school detention will be issued by the Year Level Deputy Principal. During this time, students will complete a Reflection Sheet which will be uploaded as a record to OneSchool.
- Years 10–12 students will be referred for this second infringement at the review of Good Standing. A second infringement **may** contribute to a loss of Good Standing until the next review juncture.
- NOTE: If students do not comply with a staff member's instruction to hand in the phone to the Administration Office at the outset, further consequences may apply in alignment with the Student Code of Conduct.

#### Non-Compliance with Policy – Third Infringement

- Students found using a device will be instructed by staff to hand in their phone at the Administration Office. Parents/carers will be advised by the Year Level Deputy Principal.
- This repeated refusal to follow a school instruction impacts the good order and management of the school. Continued refusal and ongoing non-compliance **may** result in a School Disciplinary Absence (suspension).

#### Special Considerations

- Parents/carers should contact the Year Level Deputy Principal or Principal to discuss the options available if there are specific circumstances that need to be considered.
- An interpreter or support person can be arranged if required to attend a meeting with the Principal or his/her delegate.

### Relevant Legislation and Policy

This policy has been developed in accordance with the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 (Qld) Chapter 12, Part 9 ss.360-363

- Disability Standards for Education 2005 (Cwlth)
- [Department of Education and Training Inclusive Education](#)