

MOBILE PHONE Change of Policy

The NSW Government has announced restrictions on the use of mobile phones in New South Wales high schools beginning in Term 4, 2023.

Toormina High School will be making changes to the way mobile phones are accessed by students during the school day. The new system is being implemented to increase focus in classrooms, remove distractions and to also promote positive social interaction, while reducing the potential for online bullying.

Important changes coming in Term 4

The new mobile devices management plan at Toormina High School will apply to mobile phones, smart watches, Airpods/headphones, tablets and laptops and will occur during all school hours, including break times such as during lunch and recess, as well as while students are on school-based excursions.

Students will still be able to carry their phones while travelling to and from school.

Parents/Carers and students wishing to apply for an exemption will need to make an appointment with the Principal to discuss their individual circumstances and complete a 'Mobile phone request for medical information' form.

How we will restrict mobile phone access

After careful consideration with our key stakeholders including the Student Representative Council (SRC), P&C, staff and executive teams, we have decided to proceed by using the option of mobile phones being turned off and kept out of sight, to reduce the distractions of students in the classroom.

What does this mean?

We are excited to make our school a mobile phone-free space to improve learning and engagement, however, we will always make sure you can contact your child in an emergency. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school directly on **6653 3077**. Students will be expected to comply with the school rules and failure to do so will result in confiscation and the need for parents to collect the device. Ongoing failure to comply may result in formal cautions and suspensions. There will also be further information posted on school communication platforms.