

Babinda P-12 State School

Mobile Phone Policy



Babinda P-12 State School does not permit students to have mobile phones at school.

Our school focusses on Teaching and Learning, Wellbeing and Engagement and a vibrant school life as the foundations of our culture as a supportive school community. Mobile-phone usage in school is a profound distraction from this core business for students and staff.

The negative social effects of child and adolescent mobile phone use are obvious, but there is also a large body of research demonstrating that high rates of smartphone use has a measurable negative effect in anxiety, sleeplessness and cognitive development. Issues between students are regularly initiated and exacerbated on social media through phone use. On top of this and simply put, no one is likely to look back on their schooling years and remember the good times spent staring at a phone.

Students may not produce, use or refer to a mobile phone at any time between arriving and departing from school. They are encouraged not to bring them to school at all. The school will not investigate theft or loss of any phone brought to school.

Students who need to be in possession of a phone before or after school may leave it in the school office for the day, provided it is clearly labelled with their name and turned off.

Consequences for producing, using or referring to a phone to school in contravention of the ban will include:

First incidence: Confiscation, lunchtime detentions and collection from office at the end of the day

Second incidence: Confiscation, lunchtime detentions and collection from office only by a registered parent at the end of the day.

Third incidence: 5-day school disciplinary absence.

Fourth incidence: 10-day school disciplinary absence.

Parents will always be able to make contact through the office to pass messages on to students when necessary.

This policy has been approved unanimously by the school's P and C and is part of Babinda P-12 State School's Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students.