

Student Mobile Phone & Digital Device Management Strategy



Community
Presentation

18 September, 2023

NSW Department of Education



Education





Acknowledgement of Country

We would like to acknowledge the Dharawal Nation, where the students and staff of Camden High School live, learn and work.

As we share our own knowledge, teaching and learning within our school, may we also pay our respect to the knowledge and storytelling of Aboriginal Elders past, present and emerging.

Why are we implementing this strategy?

This strategy is being implemented to increase focus and learning in classrooms, remove distractions and promote positive social interactions.

The implementation of this strategy is a requirement under the NSW Department of Education: **Students' Use of Mobile Phones in Schools Policy**.



What is the 'locked device pouch' system?



The locked device pouch system will keep your child's phone locked and secure during the school day.

Your child will be provided with a pouch at the beginning of Term 4. When they enter the school grounds, the phones must be placed into their pouches and closed. A pin mechanism then locks the pouch, and the only way it can be opened is by passing it over an unlocking station. It means students can't access their phones and be distracted during school hours.

Once school is finished, students wave their pouch over the unlocking station when exiting, and then they have full use of their phones again. We will be securing several unlocking stations in various locations around the school. Each faculty, along with the front office, will have portable unlocking stations.

How does the 'locked device pouch' system work?

1

Each morning your child will turn off their mobile phone, or place their mobile phone in airplane mode, and then lock it in a pouch.

2

The mobile phone will stay locked with your child throughout the day, and cannot receive or send calls or messages.

3

Your child retains responsibility for their mobile phone.

4

When leaving the school, your child can unlock the pouch at designated unlocking stations to access their phone.

Question:
What if I need to
contact my
child?

Answer:
A call can be
placed directly
to the school in
an emergency.

Question:
Who is
responsible for
the mobile
phone?

Answer:
As your child retains
their mobile
phone throughout
the day, they remain
responsible.

Key Questions

Question:
Are there any exemptions?

Answer:
Requests for exemption on the basis of medical needs will be considered with appropriate medical documentation supplied.

Question:
What devices are covered as part of this strategy?

Answer:
Mobile phones are the focus but it also covers headphones and air Pods.

Key Questions

Question:
Can the phone be used to make purchases at the canteen?

Answer:
No, canteen purchases can be made using cards or cash only.

Questions:
What happens if the phone pouch gets lost or damaged?

Answer:
Phone pouches remain the property of the school. Replacement pouches incur a cost. Intentional damage will result in a consequence that aligns with the school's behaviour procedures.

Key Questions

Question:
What will happen if my child does not comply?

Answer:
The school's existing student behaviour procedures will be applied to your child. (See Slide 10)

Question:
What about school excursions?

Answer:
The mobile phone & digital device management strategy applies to all school events, including sport, unless an exemption is made by the principal.
If this is the case, information will be included in the permission form.

Key Questions

Student Behaviour Procedures Mobile & Digital Devices

NSW Department of Education Mobile Management

Camden High School Camden High School supports the restrictions of mobile phones in accordance with the NSW Department of Education: Students' Use of Mobile Phones in Schools policy. All mobile phones are required to be turned off and placed in a locked pouch for the full school day.

Camden High School student expectations:

- **Student** to place phone in pouch and lock all day including break times.
- **Student** to treat pouch and/or locks with care.

IF A STUDENT HAS NO POUCH:

- **Student** to take phone to office and hand in
- **Student** to collect phone receipt as evidence of submission
- **Student** to show teacher phone receipt upon entry back to class.

Camden High School non compliance:

- **Student** fails to comply with mobile phone policy
- **Student** has mobile phone and associated digital devices sighted
- **Student** is using mobile phone and associated digital devices on school grounds.
- Student has found to have misused and/ or vandalised pouch or locking devices

Camden High School consequences:

- Phone is stored in office
- Contact with parent/ carer
- Phone collected by parent/ carer
- After school Reflection
- Formal Caution/ Suspension

How can you help?

- Discuss the mobile phone & digital device management strategy with your child.
- Remind them of their role in the process.
- Arrange for your child to use a card or cash when purchasing at the canteen.



Next steps

- We will be sending a letter home detailing all the finer details of the strategy.
- This strategy will be implemented at the beginning of Term 4.

