



# Plumpton High School Mobile Phone and Electronic Device Policy (2024-2025)

## VALUING LEARNING AND WORKING TOGETHER FOR OUR CHILDREN

Following consultation with the school community in 2020 and 2022, the NSW Department of Education's 2023 [Student Use of Mobile Phones in Schools \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/education-policy/student-use-of-mobile-phones-in-schools) and NSW Government Policy adjustments have been made to the Plumpton High School Mobile Phone and Electronic Device Policy.

At Plumpton High School, while the increasing use and importance of mobile phones in our lives is recognised, processes have been well established over a long period of time to assist parents and caregivers to deliver messages to their children, which are of an urgent or important nature, without the need for students to have a mobile phone.

For parents who need to contact their child during class time, a call to the office is appropriate and always welcomed. Messages are delivered to students in a prompt manner. In general, mobile phones are not necessary for communication to and from students during school hours and we ask that this is respected by all.

At times before and after school, however, mobile phones offer students and their parents many advantages in terms of ease of communication and a sense of personal safety. For this reason, the school respects the need for students to carry mobile phones, provided students observe the following conditions and courtesies.

- Mobile phones and personal electronic devices are not to be used from the commencement of Period 1 until the end of Period 4. This includes making or receiving calls, sending or receiving text messages, taking photographs or videos, recording conversations, to listen to music or any other unauthorised purpose.
  - Mobile Phones/earbuds/Electronic communication devices will be locked in Yondr Pouches prior to the bell at the commencement of Period 1 - Period 4 end.
  - Students will be responsible for locking their devices in the Yondr Pouches each morning prior to the bell at the commencement of Period 1 or before they enter the classroom if arriving after the bell.
  - At the commencement of Period 1 all students will place their locked Yondr Pouch containing their Mobile Phones/earbuds/Electronic communication devices on their desk where the teachers will inspect that they are locked with devices contained within them.
  - Larger headphones need to be stored in student bags throughout the school day.
- Appropriate use of mobile phones and electronic devices may occur during Lunch 2 for those students who require them (wellbeing needs) in Room 1.
  - 1 Yondr Pouch unlocking device will be made available for students who require use of their Mobile phones or Electronic Devices in Room 1 for wellbeing or medical reasons that will require documentation from parents and health professionals.
  - A maximum of 15 students will be able to access Room 1 at a time during Lunch 2 and students will be required to sit in chairs at their associated desks.
  - A playground duty roster with teacher supervision has been established to support this process.
  - The Department's Behaviour code for students applies to this duty area as with all others.



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- At times, teachers may instruct, or allow students to use mobile phones or electronic devices for specific educational purposes, such as recording an experiment, using music in a dance composition or using an app specific to a subject. At these times students may use their phones but only when instructed to by their teacher who will unlock the Yondr Pouches. Upon completion of the task teachers will instruct students to place devices back into the Yondr Pouch and lock them, followed by an inspection of the classes locked Yondr Pouches
- As with all valuable items, students are strongly discouraged from bringing mobile phones and electronic devices to school due to the potential for loss, theft or damage of the item. Plumpton High School cannot accept responsibility for the loss, theft or damage to such items, including mobile phones. These items are brought to school at your own risk.
- Should a student have a mobile phone or electronic device at school, it must be turned off during lessons and other school activities. It must be kept securely in the student's Yondr Pouch and bag during lessons or other school activities. This will ensure that there is no disruption to the school's learning environment.
- Students must not have any material stored on their mobile phones or electronic devices which is offensive, harmful or illegal. It is an offence to possess images of illegal acts, such as fights, to have inappropriate images, to bully or intimidate others through the use of mobile phones (carriage service), or to record and upload images/video of people without their consent, on these devices. In such cases the school is required to confiscate mobile phones and refer the matter to police.
- All students will receive a free Yondr Pouch that is their responsibility to manage. Should a student misplace, damage or lose the pouch they will be responsible for the replacement cost of \$20.
- Any student who brings a mobile phone or electronic device to school will be responsible for ensuring the above conditions and courtesies are observed. Incidents involving students failing to adhere to the Mobile Phone and Electronic Device Policy will result in consequences in accordance with the Department of Education Code of Conduct for Students and the Plumpton High School Discipline Policy.

In summary:

- Students must;
  - Lock Phones/Electronic communication devices and ear buds/headphones in Yondr Pouches prior to the bell at the commencement of Period 1. Keep mobile phones and electronic devices in bags during lessons unless directed by the teacher to use it.
  - Switch off mobile phones prior to them being placed in the Yondr Pouch
  - Ensure mobile phones are used appropriately at all times
- Staff will;
  - Inspect Yondr Pouches at the commencement of Period 1 or after allowed use in class
  - Ensure the Mobile Phone and Electronic Device Policy is followed during the school day and at all school events
  - Follow the school's discipline code should students choose not to adhere to the Mobile Phone and Electronic Device Policy