



NEW PLYMOUTH BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL
TE KURA TAMATĀNE O NGĀMOTU

Title	STUDENTS CELLPHONES IN SCHOOL
Reference Number	F610
Section	Students
Written By	NPBHS Headmaster
Checked By	NPBHS Policy Committee
Approved By	NPBHS Board of Trustees
Issue Date	July 2024
Review Date	July 2027
Associated Policies	<u>D409 Digital Technology and Cyber Safety</u> <u>A103 Privacy - RD November 2025</u>
Associated Procedures	<u>School Rules - Cellphones</u>

RATIONALE :

To recognise that student cellphones can be detrimental to a settled classroom learning environment, and the misuse of cell phone social media apps can cause wellbeing issues among young people.

NPBHS is committed to supporting strong engagement with teaching and learning, and promoting respectful and positive relationships and communication between peers that reflects the school's values.

PURPOSE :

1. To reflect current government legislation pertaining to student cellphones in school
2. To ensure that cell phones and related digital devices do not distract from learning
3. To support positive relationships and face-to-face communication skills

GUIDELINES :

1. Cellphones must be turned off and remain in bags during the hours of 8.35 am and 3:10 pm while on site. This includes students who are on a school course, or on a school visit or curriculum activity outside the classroom
2. On overnight EOTC trips, students may be permitted to have access to their phones at specific times as set by the staff member in charge of the trip. This permission will be communicated to students and parents or caregivers within trip information documentation
3. The only time when a cellphone can be used at school, is to support identified learning or health needs, as and when approved by the Headmaster, SLT or Head of Department - Te Haumarū Learning Centre
4. In special circumstances, the Headmaster can provide an exemption if deemed necessary given a student's situation

5. While on school premises, students must not use cellphones or any other electronic device to capture images/videos/activities or recordings in any form of any person including other students or teachers /staff members without the permission of a teacher, SLT member or the Headmaster
6. Students are strongly encouraged to leave cellphones at home
7. The school takes no responsibility for the loss or damage of any student cellphone, earbuds or headphones brought to school
8. Infringements against this policy will result in discipline actions being taken as outlined in the NPBHS School Rules

Related Documentation

- Government Regulations “Phones away for the day”
<https://www.education.govt.nz/school/digital-technology/cellphones/>
- Government Legislation
https://www.legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2023/0294/latest/LMS927327.html#LM_S927326
- Privacy Act 2020 (Privacy Commission
www.privacy.org.nz)