

Dear Redcliffe SHS Parents/Caregiver, Students and Staff,

From Term 1 2024, all state school students must keep their mobile phones switched off and 'away for the day' during school hours – including break times. Queensland state schools are committed to reducing the distraction of mobile phones and wearable devices to provide optimal learning environments for all students.

'Away for the day' aims to:

- reduce distractions in the classroom
- increase face-to-face interactions between students
- promote student health and wellbeing
- reduce the potential for student exposure to negative impacts of the digital world, such as cyberbullying.

At the commencement of the 2024 school year, each Redcliffe SHS student will be provided with a lockable, signal blocking phone pouch. Students will be required to place their mobile phones - switched off - into the pouch as they arrive to school each morning and lock the mechanism. This applies to student attendance at school activities, such as representative school sport, excursions and camps during school hours.

Students will unlock their pouch at one of our many unlocking stations as they leave the school grounds.

Wearable devices such as smart watches can be worn, however notifications must be switched off so that phone calls, messages and other notifications cannot be sent or received during school hours.

Our Student Code of Conduct will be updated to reflect these changes. Responses to inappropriate use or failure to follow school procedures will be proportionate and equitable.

More information will be provided in the coming weeks, including at a parent information session at 5.30pm on Wednesday 22nd November.

Please also refer to the Frequently Asked Questions information attached.

Consideration of individual circumstances will be given to students who require temporary or ongoing exemptions to manage medical conditions, for agreed adjustments or for extenuating circumstances. If you believe your child requires consideration, please contact us at phoneaway@redcliffeshs.eq.edu.au