

# William Ross State High School

## Mobile and Wearable Device Policy

### Overview

The Queensland Government has made a decision to ban mobile and wearable devices in all Queensland schools in 2024 during school hours. This ban includes mobile phones and smart watches. At William Ross State High School, our policy stipulates that all mobile phones and headphones are not to be used when attending school. Smartwatches may be worn, but should be in flight mode. Extensive consultation was undertaken, with students and staff in the revision and implementation of this policy.

### Mobile and Wearable Devices at School – Policy and Expected Student Behaviour

Device Type	School Policy	Expected Student Behaviour
Mobile Phones	Mobile phones are not to be seen and/or used during school hours.	Students will have their phone “off and away” from 8:45am until 3:00pm.
Wearable Smartwatches	Smartwatches may be worn but must be in “flight mode” and are not to be used during school hours.	Students will put their Smartwatches on flight mode from 8:45am until 3:00pm.
Headphones	Air pods/Ear pods/headphones are not to be seen and/or used during school hours.	Students will keep headphones away from 8:45am until 3:00pm

Students and parents are reminded that valuable personal technology devices such as mobile phones, headphones, tablets, laptops etc. are brought to school at their own risk. Students may use laptops and/or tablets as part of our Bring Your Own Device program. These devices are not covered in the *Mobile and Wearable Devices Policy*.

### Exemptions

Exemptions for the Mobile and Wearable Devices Policy at William Ross State High School are as follows:

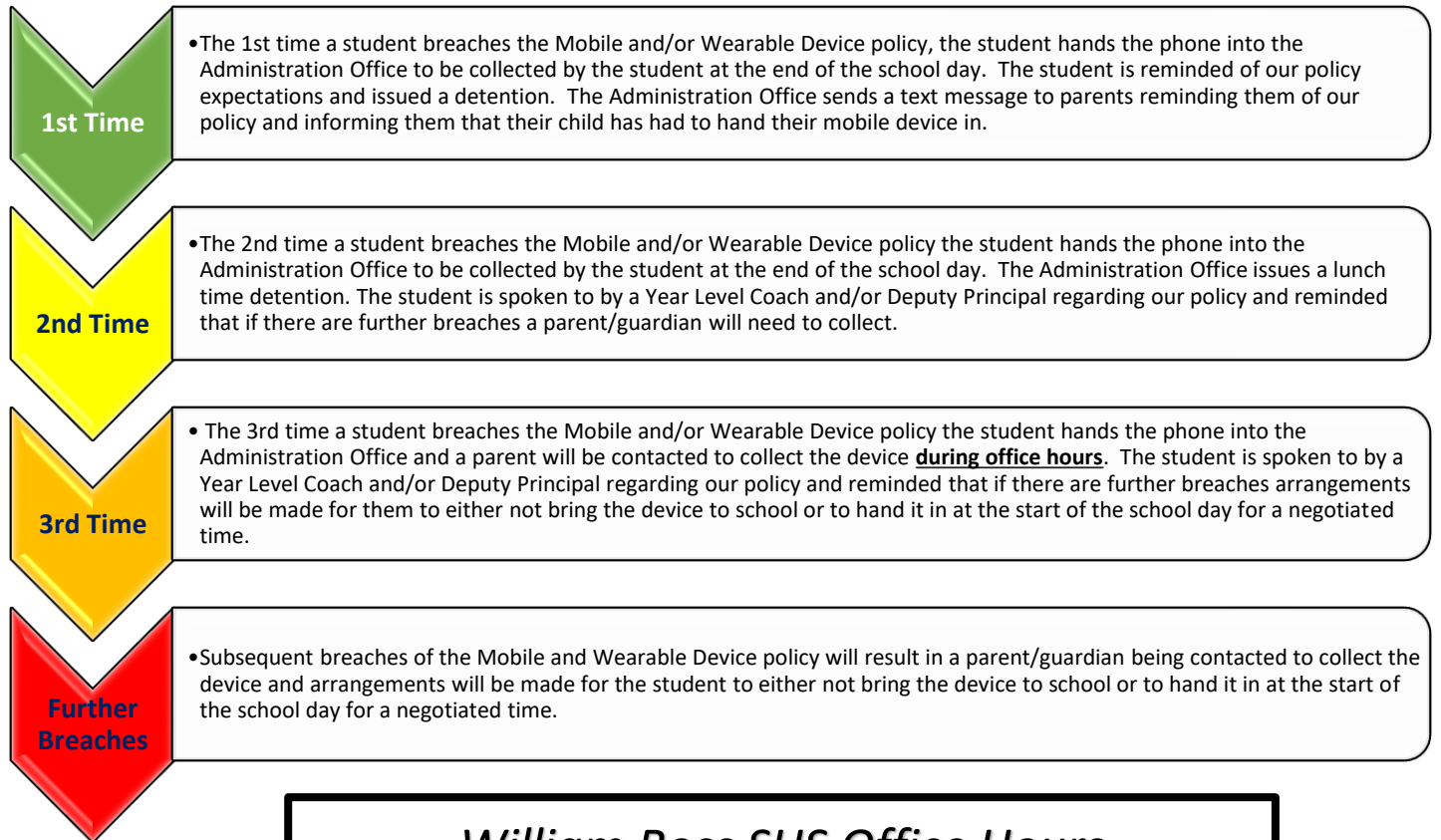
- **Medical Exemption** for students who require their mobile phone device for legitimate medical grounds (i.e., a student with diabetes who uses their device to check their insulin levels). Parents/guardians who believe their child requires an exemption should speak with the relevant Deputy Principal of their child’s Year Level. All applications for medical exemption should be provided in writing, along with supporting documentation to the Principal.
- **Curriculum Exemption** for students who are using their device under the supervision of a teacher, approved by a Head of Department, for curriculum purposes.
- **School Camps/Carnivals** students may use their Mobile and Wearable Devices on the way to and from school camps. They may also be used responsibly and in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct at School Carnivals.

### Confiscation

Students who are using a mobile phone and/or wearable device on our campus will be instructed to hand it into the Administration Office. The consequences for repetitive breaches of our policy are outlined below. Students who refuse the reasonable instruction of staff may face disciplinary action, including suspension in accordance with our Student Code of Conduct. Devices potentially containing evidence of criminal offences may be reported to the Queensland Police Service (QPS). In such cases, QPS may take possession of such devices for investigation purposes and students and parents will be advised to contact QPS directly.

## Consequence/Follow Up Flowchart for Repeated Breaches of the WRSHS Mobile and Wearable Device

Students are made aware of our Mobile Phone and Wearable Device Policy, as well as our Student Code of Conduct. For students who fail to meet the expectations of this policy, the consequences are outlined below. These consequences are reset each school Term, allowing students the opportunity to demonstrate responsibility and compliance with our school policy. Students who refuse to comply with the reasonable instructions of staff may face serious disciplinary consequences in line with the William Ross State High School Student Code of Conduct.



### *William Ross SHS Office Hours*

*8:00am – 3:30pm*

*Monday - Friday*