



Goulburn North Public School  
Union Street, Goulburn NSW 2580  
Phone: 02 4821 3838  
Email: [goulburnn-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:goulburnn-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

**9 October 2023**

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The NSW Government has announced restrictions on the use of mobile phones in NSW schools beginning in Term 4, 2023.

**Goulburn North Public School** will be making changes to the way mobile phones are accessed by students during the school day. The new system is being implemented to increase focus in classrooms, remove distractions and to also promote positive social interaction, while reducing the potential for online bullying.

#### **Important changes coming in Term 4**

The new mobile devices management plan at **Goulburn North Public School** will apply to mobile phones and will occur during all school hours, including break times such as during 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> break, as well as while students are on school-based excursions.

Students will still be able to carry their phones while travelling to and from school.

School staff can allow students to use their mobile phones in specific circumstances, such as for an educational purpose, for their wellbeing or to support students with specific needs.

Parents/carers and students wishing to apply for an exemption will need to contact the school and discuss the reason for the exemption with the Team Leaders of the grade associated with your child.

- KR, 1L and 2C Team Leader – Mrs Maureen Nixon
- 2/3C, 3/4B and 3/4L Team Leader – Mr Tim O’Keefe
- 4/5M, 5/6L and 5/6F Team Leader – Mrs Melinda Winslet

#### **How we will restrict mobile phone access**

After careful consideration with staff and executive team, we have decided to proceed by using the option of Phones collected and stored in the classroom to reduce the distractions of students in the classroom. These will be locked up throughout the day and returned prior to the end of school day.



Education

***What does this mean?***

Each classroom across the school will have a locked box in their classroom. Students will be asked to provide their mobile device to this box for safe keeping. This box will be housed in the classrooms throughout the day and returned to students prior to the end of the school day.

Once a device is returned to a student, they must place these devices into their bags. Any misuse when a device is returned to a student, or misuse on a school bus, will also result in a warning being issued.

Students that do not follow this process and found in possession of a mobile device through the day, will have it collected and added to the classroom lock box. The school will then provide the student's family with a reminder letter of school processes. We ask that you discuss and remind the procedures with your child.

If this continues the school will provide one final reminder of the procedures and expectation.

Upon a third and final incident, the student will not be permitted to bring their mobile device to school.

We are excited to make our school a mobile phone-free space to improve learning and engagement, however, we will always make sure you can contact your child in an emergency. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school directly on **02 4821 3838**. There will also be further information posted on school communication platforms.

Sincerely,

***Jason Marshall***  
***Principal***  
***Goulburn North Public School***



Education