

13 September 2023

Dear parents, caregivers, and students

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

Canterbury Girls High 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 Canterbury Girls High School will apply to mobile phones and will occur during all school hours, including break times such as during lunch and recess, 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. In limited circumstances, school staff can allow students to use their mobile phones in specific supervised situations, such as for a teacher-approved educational purpose (e.g. photography lesson), or to support students with specific medical needs (e.g. adjusting hearing aids, diabetes monitors).

Parents/carers of students with serious medical needs may apply for an exemption from the principal. Supporting medical documentation may be required.


How we will restrict mobile phone access

After careful consideration with our key stakeholders including the Student Representative Council (SRC), P&C, staff, and executive teams, we have decided to proceed by using the option of Mobile Phones being turned off and kept out of sight, **to reduce the distractions of students in the classroom**. The 'off and away' plan will be evaluated throughout term 4 and should we require an alternate system for management, we will notify you.

What does this mean?

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 **9718 1805**. There will also be further information posted on school communication platforms.

Yours sincerely



Ms Belinda Conway
Principal



Church Street
Canterbury NSW 2193
Phone 02 9718 1805
Fax 02 9718 3501

Email Canterburg-h.School@det.nsw.edu.au

Web www.Canterburg-h.Schools.nsw.edu.au