

## Dear Parents/carers,

We have come to recognise that the possession of mobile phones by students at school are causing disruption to learning and having a negative impact on the choices students make. The <u>Department</u> <u>of Education</u> expects its schools to adhere to sensible and safe usage protocols.

## Improper mobile phone usage can lead to issues such as:

- Harassment and bullying.
- Aggressive behaviours.
- Distraction in class.
- Cheating in exams and assignments.
- Social division and conflict.
- Damage, theft, and security issues.
- Compulsive and addictive behaviours.

At James Busby High School we believe that the time has come to carefully and respectfully monitor how students manage the use of their mobile phones to ensure appropriate social interactions, interpersonal skills, and the values they adhere to during usage such as respect and safety are adhered to. It is important that apps, games, and social media do not distract students during school time. We want our students to engage with their education and not distract themselves and others.

As a result, all students are expected to secure their mobile phones in their YONDR pouches each day.

## Parents are asked to contact the school directly on 96077766 if there is an urgent need to speak with their child.

## Expected Procedure:

- 1. When a student arrives at school, they must place their mobile phone in their **YONDR Pouch** and lock it in. They can do this themselves without the need for the specialised magnets.
- 2. During pastoral care (8.50am-9.10am), teachers will do a **YONDR Pouch** check and make sure that everyone has their pouch with them and that their phones are locked in.
- 3. If a student has chosen to lock something else in their **YONDR Pouch** and their mobile phone is seen in class or on the playground, they will be asked to place their phone in their **YONDR pouch**. <u>Students are expected to comply respectfully</u>.
- 4. If a student is seen with their phone for a <u>second time</u> throughout the school day, the phone will be handed to the front office and collected at the end of the school day, by the student. <u>Students are expected to comply respectfully</u>.
- If a student has again (2<sup>nd</sup> time, different day) not placed their mobile phone in their YONDR Pouch and are seen with it in class or on the playground, the phone will be taken to the front office and a parent/carer will be notified. <u>Students are expected to comply respectfully</u>.
- 6. At the <u>end of the day</u> students will unlock their **YONDR Pouches** as they exit the school via the A Block gate.
- 7. Students may also choose to leave their phones at home.
- 8. Persistent refusal to follow the school's policy will result in increasingly serious responses. Every student is expected to comply respectfully.

We thank you for your support and your willingness to work with us. This is a very important step in ensuring students are engaged in their education. As with all other communications regarding the introduction of YONDR pouches, please call the school on 96077766 if you have any questions.