



Liverpool Girls High School

Forbes Street Liverpool
NSW 2170

Principal: Kirstine Gonano
Deputy Principal: Avryl Queffert
Deputy Principal: Linda Jurcevic
Deputy Principal: Lucy McLure

Telephone : (02) 9602 0083
Fax : (02) 9822 4351
email: liverpool-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
web: www.liverpool-h.schools.nsw.edu.au
Twitter: @LiverpoolGirlsH

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.

Liverpool Girls High School is already well positioned to follow the NSW Government restrictions to mobile phone use, by continuing to use pouches to manage the way mobile phones are accessed by students during the school day. The pouch system will continue to be implemented to increase focus in classrooms, remove distractions and to also promote positive social interaction, while reducing the potential for online bullying.

How we manage mobile phones and devices at Liverpool Girls High School

The mobile devices management plan at **Liverpool Girls High School** continues to 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 alignment with the changes, school staff can allow students to use their mobile phones in specific circumstances, such as for an educational purpose in class or to support students with specific needs on occasions.

How we will continue to restrict mobile phone access at school

After careful consideration with our key stakeholders including the P&C, staff and executive teams, we have decided to continue using the option of **locked pouches** to reduce the distractions of students in the classroom.

What does this mean? A copy of the Pouch Student Expectations has been included online for you and your child to read.

Every student has been given a pouch (whether they have a phone or not). Every student will secure their phone every day in a pouch when they are at school or on a school-based excursion or activity. Students without a phone still need to show their empty pouch. The school has a system to identify that they do not own a mobile phone that will be verified by a parent/ caregiver. Students will maintain possession of their phones and will not use them until they are unlocked at the end of the school day. Students are required to bring their pouch to and from school each day and are responsible for their pouch at all times. Lost or damaged pouches will incur a cost to the family.



Considerations for exemption

If you have concerns about your child not having access to a mobile phone, we would be happy to discuss this further with you. Students with special needs, including medical and learning needs, may apply for an exemption. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The Principal/ delegate will manage requests for exemption and require documentation from a medical professional and an interview with the student and their family. Exemptions will be granted in consultation with teachers, students and families, and require an application and agreed implementation plan, which will be completed during this consultation process.

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 **9602 0083**. There will also be further information posted on school communication platforms.

Sincerely,



Kirstine Gonano

Principal