

NHSPA Mobile Phone Policy

Rationale:

To explain to our school community Newtown High School of the Performing Arts policy requirements, and expectations regarding the safe and appropriate use of mobile phones by students, at school or during school activities.

Scope:

This policy applies to all students at Newtown High School of the Performing Arts.

Policy:

Newtown High School of the Performing Arts understands that students may need to bring a mobile phone to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school or to extra-curricular activities.

During class time, students should have their mobile phones switched off and left in their bags.

Students are not permitted to access their mobile phone in class, unless otherwise permitted by a teacher e.g. where phones may be used for e-learning or other learning activities.

Students who take out/use mobile phones in class will have their phone confiscated. The teacher will direct the student to take it to the Administration Office. The mobile phone will be returned to the student at the end of the school day. Parents will be notified by email, when the student's phone is confiscated.

If students use their mobile phones inappropriately at school, on three occasions, parents will be notified and required to come to the school to collect the phones.

Students are not permitted to take incoming calls or messages or alerts during the school day as this disrupts the learning environment. The student will be issued a warning and directed to turn the phone off.

Mobile phones must not be used:

- during class or assemblies or in any way that disrupts the learning of others
- to send or make inappropriate, harassing or threatening messages or phone calls
- to engage in inappropriate social media use including cyber bullying
- to capture video or images of people, including students, teachers and members of the school community without their permission

If parents need to contact students during the school day, they should call the school office and a message will be relayed to the student. **Parents should not make direct contact with students during class time as this may cause a disruption to their learning.**

Insurance:

Students are responsible for their mobile phone. Please note that Newtown High School of the Performing Arts does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items, including mobile phones that may be brought to school.