



The Government's 100 days plan for education.

The government's plan, covers a number of items of particular interest that will have an immediate effect are a [ban on cell phones](#). With the government's announcement of a cell phone ban, there will be a complete ban on phones and earpods or their equivalent from [8:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. in all areas of the school, including break times](#). If a phone is seen between the start and end of school, it may be confiscated. There will be more detail shared with students on the first day of school; this day will be the only grace period (day) before the ban is implemented.

Parent/Whanau survey term three 2023 cell phone survey - results

In addition to the above the school surveyed parents and Whanau on their views of cellphone use in school. 89% of parents/Whanau agreed phones were not suitable and supported a full or partial ban, 8% were unsure and 3% did not support a ban. There were 447 responses to the survey.

Cell Phone usage at school and in class has a real and actual negative effect on academic performance research tells us. Here is a [link to recent research](#) from the United Kingdom and other countries that have banned phones..



Exceptions.

Some students may need a phone for the monitoring of medical devices; this will be allowed.

How to Stop Being 'Addicted' to Your Phone

If you're concerned that you may be spending too much time on your smartphone, you're not alone.

For many people, cell phone use is an essential part of modern life. We often don't think twice about using our phones for everything from work to communicating with loved ones to mindless scrolling.

Given this, it's natural to find yourself with your phone in your hand for much of the day. There's an app for just about everything, and there's nothing wrong with taking advantage of them to make life easier. But some people may find that they become overly reliant on their cellphone in a way that can feel like an addiction. Suggestion to be free from cell phone addiction [LINK HERE](#)

How and What - Confiscation of Cell Phones - The Schools Process.

Item	Consequences	Communication home
1st incident:	The student will be given a verbal warning and required to put the cellphone away, turned off, in their bag.	An electronic letter will be sent home, advising parents/carers this has occurred.
2nd incident:	The student will have their phone confiscated; the phone will be held securely at the student office. The student may collect the phone at the end of the school day.	An electronic letter will be sent home, advising parents/carers this has occurred.
3rd incident:	The student will have their phone confiscated; the phone will be held at the student school office and <u>may only be collected by a responsible adult 18+, usually a parent or carer.</u>	An electronic letter will be sent home, advising parents/carers this has occurred. A meeting with the student, dean and parent/caregiver will be arranged.
4th incident:	As above, however, in addition, the school discipline system will be applied, which may have negative consequences for the student.	A meeting with the student, dean and parent/carer will be arranged. The Deputy Principal may be involved if appropriate.
Students will be given multiple opportunities above to cease the use of cell phones during school times.		

Questions and Answers. (Parents / Whanau and Students).

Q: I need to get an important message to or from my child

A: *Contact the school office; a message can be relayed to or from the student/parent.*

Q: My child needs their cell phone to monitor a medical device:

A: *No problem, this is allowed.*

Q: My child's place of work needs to contact them about hours of work, shifts, etc.

A: *The business may text or leave a message on the students cell phone; the student can check their message at the end of the school day from 2.45pm*

Q: My child is addicted to their phone. What will this mean for them?

A: *Students have access to the school counsellors who in turn may be able to assist or refer to additional agencies for addiction support etc. Contact the school counsellor to discuss if this is needed, students can self refer to our school counsellors.*

Q: Are there any times my child will be allowed to have a cellphone?

A: *Yes, when certain activities such as Outdoor education trip or away sporting and overnight trips etc take place, phones may be taken with the students.*

Q: Why ban the phones?

A: *Research is clear that phones distract learning and have a negative impact on learning, contributing to bullying and other negative outcomes. See link to research above.*

Q: Is it legal for a school to ban phones or confiscate them?

A: *Yes, the Education and Training Act already allowed schools to confiscate or ban any item. This has now been mandated in law by the government's requirement through their 100 day plan. The school has no choice.*