

**ROTORUA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES POLICY**



REMOVE A MAJOR DISTRACTION TO STUDENT LEARNING

Rationale:

The Board and staff at Rotorua Intermediate have a responsibility to maximise the learning outcomes for all students. This can only be achieved if students are fully engaged with the learning opportunities being provided, and not be distracted from learning due to engagement with their cell phone, or the cell phones of others.

Guidelines:

Students will not be allowed to have access to any cell phone in their possession between 8.30 am and 3.00 pm, during the school week, when on the Rotorua Intermediate school grounds.

School Procedures

All Rotorua Intermediate students who bring a cellphone onto the Rotorua Intermediate school grounds during the time period of 8.30 am and 3.00 pm, will be expected to hand this phone into the teacher taking their class, from 8.30 am, or if late to school, on their arrival at school.

This cellphone will be placed in a secure, lockable cabinet in their classroom, where it will remain until the end of the school day, at which time the teacher will unlock the security cabinet and return individual's cell phones.

Students will not have access to the cell phone handed in at any time between 8.30 am and 3.00 pm, unless they are required to leave school grounds and have been signed out by a parent or caregiver. All urgent/ important student to parent communication will be done through our school office, as will all urgent/important parent to student communication.

Students who arrive after 9:00am will be required to hand their phones into the school office on arrival and collect them at 3:00pm. These phones will be stored in the office safe.

Students who choose to disregard the requirement to hand in the cell phone in their possession, will have that cellphone removed. These cellphones will be locked away in the school office, until collected only by their parents or caregivers.

Exceptions

An exception to these procedures may relate to field trips and sporting engagements taking place away from Rotorua Intermediate. This will be at the discretion of teachers/coaches.

In matters related to a student's immediate health and safety concerns, parents/ caregivers can apply at any time to the Principal for a period of exemption. (E.G. Food allergies, medical condition, protection issues).

Lockdown and or other school emergencies.

A decision on access to personal cell phones will be at the discretion of the school's Executive Leadership Team, and be based on the actual essentialness for direct student to parent communication. Alerts for such emergencies will be notified through our Rotorua Intermediate School App, our Rotorua Intermediate Facebook page and our school to parent email link.

Conclusion:

The greater the level of student engagement with learning, the greater the rate of student progress. The intention of this school policy, to remove the major distraction of cell phones to student learning, is to better enhance student's learning potential and progress.

Effectiveness Review:

The review process involved gathering information for making judgments about the extent to which objectives have been achieved, then deciding any further action needed to the revealed successes and weaknesses.

1. Identify who will be responsible for leading the review, and those to be involved
2. Decide a timeframe for the review
3. Gather and consider information related to the policy objectives
4. Make judgments about achievement and effectiveness of the objectives
5. Recommend future actions
6. Report

Reviewed: 2019

Next Review: 2022

Board of Trustees Chairperson:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. J. ...'.

Date: 20/5/19