

The Central Loop

UPDATES FOR PARENTS AND CARERS OF BRAIDWOOD CENTRAL SCHOOL STUDENTS

Term 4 Weeks 6 & 7



Upcoming Events Week 7 & 8

Year 8/9/11 Awards Ceremony 10.00am - in Gym (by invitation)	20th Nov
Year 10 Work experience (first week)	20th—24th Nov
Year 9 RFS	20th—24th Nov
Wheelchair Rugby visit	21st Nov
Girls Group with Sammi (SSO)	21st Nov
Day 4 Kindy Transition (full day)	22nd Nov
Wheelchair Rugby visit	23rd Nov
Year 10 Work Experience (2nd week)	27th Nov– 1st Dec
Year 9 Leadership Week	27th Nov– 1st Dec
MC Yr 9 & 10 Work experience	27th Nov– 1st Dec
Girls Group with Sammi (SSO)	28th Nov

Braidwood Central School new vision statement.

Over the last three months BCS staff have completed an exhaustive process to review and formulate a new Vision Statement to take us into the next decade.

Below is a draft version, ready for parent consultation. We welcome any comments from our parent community. Please email:

braidwood-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Braidwood Central School is committed to the individual growth of each student. Our school culture values well-being, resilience, and a love for learning, all supported by developing strong foundations in literacy and numeracy. Our approach allows students to achieve their individual goals and succeed in unique future endeavours. We are committed to the professional and personal development of our staff, providing them with the resources and opportunities they need to excel in our educational environment.

We are guided by our CHIRPP values—Care, Harmony, Integrity, Reliability, Perseverance, and Positivity. Promoting these values daily prepares our students to navigate life's complexities with resilience and ethical clarity, enriching their own lives and contributing positively to the community.

MOBILE phones at BCS

MOBILE phones at BCS- recent survey results

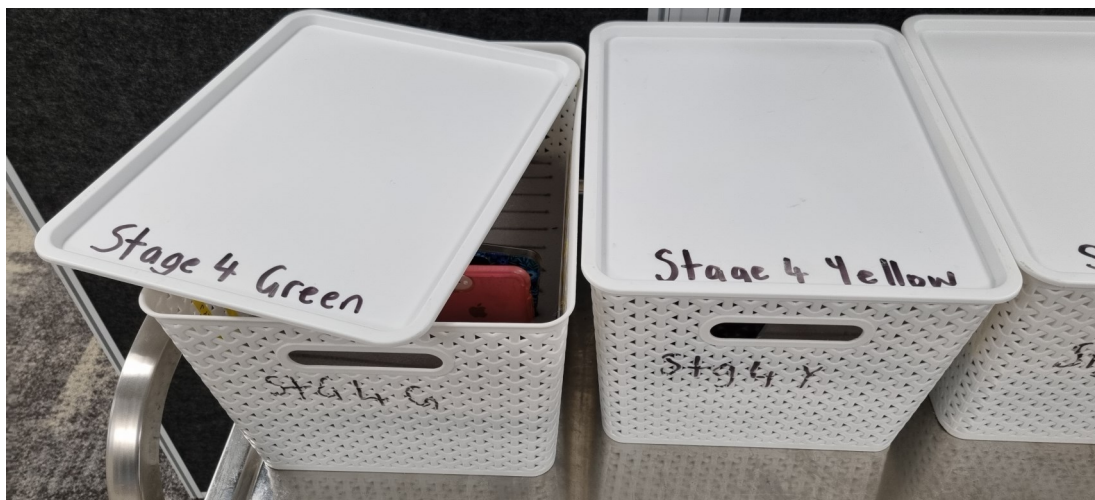
Thank you to all parents, students and teachers who responded to our recent survey on the implementation of the NSW Department of Education's Policy on student use of mobile phones in secondary schools.

The results of the survey were analysed, and the following trends were identified:

- 70% of staff respondents reported an increase in engagement in all of their classes.
- 30% of staff respondents reported an increase in engagement in some of their classes.
- 100% of teacher respondents reported that they support the continuation of the current strategy moving forward.
- 80% of parent respondents reported that the mobile phone policy has not significantly impacted their child.
- 20% of parent respondents reported that their child has substantial or significant difficulties with managing the mobile phone ban.
- 80% of parent respondents believed that the policy was working well.
- 20% of parent respondents believe that an adjustment should be made to the policy which include:
 - Allowing students to have phones at recess and lunch.
 - Increase in policing of phones brought to school that are kept in student bags.
 - Allowing senior students to have their phones.
- 40% of students reported bringing their phone to school.
- 48% of students reported leaving their phone at home since the implementation of the ban.
- 12% of students reported that they never have brought a phone to school.
- 28% of students reported an increase in engagement at school since the implementation of the policy.
- 65% of students supported the continuation of the policy.

Further student feedback:

- Students want to be able to leave their phones in their bags.
- Students want to be able to access their phones at recess and lunch.



The Department and Education's policy on student use of mobile phones in schools can be accessed via the following link- [Student Use of Mobile Phones in Schools \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/student-use-of-mobile-phones-in-schools)

This policy is clear in its intentions that students are not allowed to use mobile phones at school, including during recess and lunch. Where appropriate, students may apply for an exemption to this policy for medical and health reasons. If parents and students wish to apply for an exemption, please contact either Ms Letisha Salzke (relieving Deputy Principal with responsibilities for stage 4 students), Mr Joseph Stephens (relieving Deputy Principal with responsibilities for stage 5 students) or Ms Simone Walsh (relieving Deputy Principal with responsibilities for stage 6 students and MC).

Teaching staff on playground duty have been reminded to be vigilant in recognising students not following the mobile phone procedures, particularly during recess and lunch times.

BCS recognises that students may be struggling without access to their mobile phones. The previous and current school captains have now established and extended on lunch time activities for students to be involved in. These include sporting games on the school oval or in the school gym (Mondays and Fridays), "board at lunch" board games in OLA (Wednesdays and Thursdays) and a Music Jam session (Tuesdays) in our music room.

The trial phase for the mobile phone strategy of handing in phones at Homeroom and stored in the school office is now over. The results of the survey have shown that a continuation of the current procedures will continue.

MOBILE phones at BCS

As previously communicated, the NSW Government announced restrictions on the use of mobile phones in NSW high schools beginning in term 4, 2023. Braidwood Central School made changes to the way mobile phones are accessed by students during the school day. The system was implemented to increase focus in classrooms, remove distractions and to promote positive social interactions.

The trial phase for the mobile phone strategy of handing in phones at Homeroom and stored in the school office is now over. Stakeholders (staff, students and parents) have been asked to submit feedback, and it has emerged that the BCS strategy will continue.

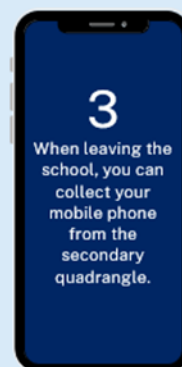
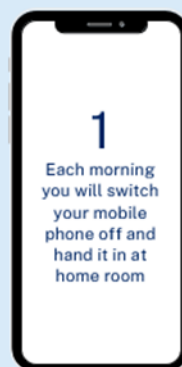
It's as simple as 1, 2, 3



Education

Are you ready for learning?

It's as simple as 1, 2 and 3!



Student Procedures remain as follows:

- Students may not use mobile phones while on school grounds at any time. 'School grounds' extends to school excursions, sports carnivals, and other events at the school or off site where an approved school activity takes place, unless otherwise advised.
- Mobile phones are to be handed in at Homeroom to the Homeroom teacher.
- Students must switch their smart watch to 'aeroplane mode' for the duration of the school day and cannot use this device for communication purposes.
- If a student fails to hand in their phone to their Homeroom teacher, they will be asked to take this phone to the school office. Successful completion of this will result in no further consequences.
- Failure to follow these expectations, will incur more severe consequences, including Formal Caution to Suspend, or a Suspension for persistent failure to follow school procedures.
- Students must take full responsibility for any mobile phone or similar device brought to school. The school or staff will not be responsible for their loss, theft, or damage. Students who bring their devices to school, do so at their own risk.
- Purchasing at the canteen: students will be required to use a card/cash to pay for purchases at the canteen. Phones are not permitted to be used.

Parent Procedures remain as follows:

- Contact the school Front Office to pass on messages rather than contacting a student directly on their device. (For acceptable reasons only, students will be permitted to use a phone in the front office to contact their parents/carers if absolutely necessary.)
- Understand that the school takes no responsibility for loss or damage to phones or personal electronic devices.
- Work collaboratively with the school and help reinforce Braidwood Central School's Mobile Phone Procedures with their child/ren.

Racism in NSW Department of Education Schools

If your child is experiencing racial discrimination at school, you should encourage them to report it to a teacher or the school's Anti-Racism Contact Officer, or you may report it on your child's behalf.

If you have experienced racism at school, you may make a complaint to the school. The Anti-Racism Contact Officer may provide you with assistance if you need it. You can also speak with:

- Our Student Support Officers, Ms Sammi Charles and Mr Luke Watson
- Our School Counsellors, Ms Monica Bollen and Ms Nicole Binks
- Our headspace service, which attends the school on Mondays

Who is the BCS Anti-Racism Contact Officer?

- Mr Joes Stephens
- Mrs Kim Domazar

What is an Anti-Racism Contact Officer?

An Anti-Racism Contact Officer (ARCO) is a teacher nominated by the principal who assists in leading anti-racism education in the school. The ARCO assists the principal by providing:

- support to build staff understanding of the impact of racism on student learning and wellbeing.
- advice to students and staff on how to respond when they see or hear incidents of racism
- advice on what strategies the school can implement to address racism.

The ARCO is trained to provide advice to parents and carers, and teachers and students about the procedure for resolving complaints about racism. If requested, the ARCO can also act as a support person or advocate during the complaints resolution process.

RACISM

HURTS

EVERYONE



Your ARCO is:
Mrs Kim Glenday



Your ARCO is:
Mr Joe Stephens

racismnoway.com.au



Recess and lunch ideas

- Healthy muffins, energy balls, health slices and fruit cakes
- Fruit salad
- Fruit with yoghurt dips, vegetable stick with hummus or savoury dips
- Meat / salad sandwiches, rolls or wraps
- Quiche or frittata with salads
- Left over pizza, pasta / rice / noodle salads
- A fillable water bottle

Fuel for learning and growing

Eating at school will be a different experience for your student compared with eating at home.

- Some students are eating breakfast as early as 6.00 – 6.30am. By 10.30am, many are ravenous and may require a substantial recess snack. Recess is 30 minutes long and there is time to sit and enjoy a meal.
- By 1.00pm students are again hungry and are provided a chance to eat another meal which gives them nourishment till home time.
- There are no places to keep food hot or cold.
- Students often sit on the grass or on benches and balance their food on their knees. They will also need to be able to open everything their food is wrapped in and they won't want to spend so much time eating that they miss out on playing or socialising.
- Food is fuel for our bodies and healthy food provides your child with energy and nutrients to get them through a day of learning, concentration and physical activity.
- Encourage your child to practise eating from the lunch box at home.
- Pack food that is easy to open, easy to eat and not messy.
- If your child needs utensils like chopsticks or cutlery make sure these are packed with their lunch.
- Write students name on their lunch box, water bottle and any other containers.
- Include a frozen drink bottle to keep food cold. Wrap it in a tea towel in case it leaks.
- Avoid using plastic wrap because children find it hard to pull apart. Paper bags are better for the environment too. Pack tissues or paper around fruit so it won't bruise.
- Remind your child to wash their hands before eating and to use the toilet at recess and lunch.
- Pack a water bottle for your child each day and remind them that they can also get water from the taps or bubblers throughout the day.



Canteen at BCS.

The canteen provides healthy and fresh items from Wednesday to Friday, recess and lunch.

- Students can order their lunch, paying by card or cash.
- Orders can also be made via the online canteen 'School24' app



ONLINE CANTEEN

Registration

To register, visit www.school24.net.au on **any device** OR install the 'School24' mobile app on your **iPhone/Android** from the App Store.

1. Press the **ORANGE** registration button to create your account
2. Enter your unique school ID number **below** to match your account with your school
3. Once completed click **Create Account**.

Braidwood Central School: 25394963

Congratulations you are now registered!

Activate your Account

Go to www.school24.net.au OR use the app you downloaded, then use your registered email address and password to login.

Congratulations. You are now ready to make your first order.



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We would like to pay our respects & acknowledge the traditional custodians of our land

and also pay respect to Elders both past & present