

Tamborine Mountain State High School has a clear and consistent policy regarding chewing gum.

Chewing gum presents numerous issues in a school environment –

- unhygienic
- spread of disease
- damaging to uniforms
- costly removal
- aesthetically unpleasant.

**Background**

- 2014
- Students (Student Council) and parents/caregivers (P and C) raised concerns about gum on uniforms when students sat on concrete for parades.
  - Deposits of gum under desks increasing in number.
  - Health implications due to contagion aspect of wet gum.
  - Professional cleaners employed. Cost \$11,000.00.
- 2015
- Once removal completed, students and parents/caregivers advised that gum was now a prohibited item.
  - Initial consequence involved students scraping gum from furniture and concrete around the school.
  - There was a reduction in gum use.
  - Professional cleaners employed to remove all gum. Cost \$3,000.00.
  - As a result of parent/caregiver consultation and the reduction in gum, the consequence was reverted to after-school detentions.
  - Unfortunately, the evidence of gum increased dramatically. The cost of removal was once again extreme - \$7,000.00.



- The repeated use of school funds to remove the gum was unsustainable.
  - More complaints ensued as students exposure to both wet and dry gum increased.
  - Flu outbreak. School advised to reduce contagion avenues.
  - Tamborine Mountain State High School in consultation with parents/caregivers and students amended the Responsible Behaviour Plan to record one Saturday detention for chewing gum.
- 2017
- Reduced cost of cleaning to less than \$1,000.00
- to date
- Money diverted from cleaning is now spent on improving student facilities – water coolers etc.
  - Students are well aware of the rule and its consequences. The prime purpose of the rule is to ensure the ongoing health and safety of the school community.
  - Recently there has been a resurgence of gum possession and use. Suspensions have been employed.

Tamborine Mountain State High School will continue to implement consequences for gum possession and use in order to ensure the welfare of all school community members.

Please note:

- Venues such as the Brisbane Entertainment Centre also prohibit the possession of gum (sample from Brisbane Entertainment Prohibited Items).

 **GO >**

## PROHIBITED ITEMS

For the health and safety of our patrons a bag search will be conducted prior to entry. Please check the event specific web page for further information.

As the policy for the use of cameras varies at each event, please check the event specific web page for information regarding the camera policy.

Security requirements vary at each event and may restrict additional items for example the use of backpacks and bags larger than A4. Please check the event specific web page for information regarding the security requirements.

Items that are prohibited from entering the Brisbane Entertainment Centre include;

- All professional cameras (those with detachable lenses or telephoto lenses) and audio/video recording devices
- Selfie sticks/monopods and tripods
- Drones
- Tablets (e.g. iPads, iPad Minis, Samsung Galaxy Note etc)
- Cans, bottles, glass bottles and containers
- Bags larger than an A4 sheet of paper
- Backpacks
- Alcohol and illegal substances
- **Chewing gum**
- Large spiked wrist or neck bands, spiked or studded belts
- Knives, weapons, scissors and chains
- Lasers and laser pointers
- Glo-sticks and other such illuminating objects
- Items that can be used as a projectile including aerosol canisters, permanent markers or Texta type felt pens
- Horns, trumpets, sirens or other noise making devices
- Banners, posters or signs larger than an A3 sheet of paper
- Fireworks or flares
- Motorbike helmets



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