



STUDENT MOBILE PHONES POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT

The Department of Education does not permit student use of mobile phones in public schools unless for medical or teacher directed educational purpose.

SCOPE

This policy relates to student personal mobile electronic devices including, but not limited to, mobile phones, smart watches and wearables, earbuds, earphones, unauthorised laptops, tablets, gaming devices, bluetooth equipment, portable speakers, media and photographic devices. This aligns with the Department of Education's *Student Mobile Phones in Public Schools Policy*.

OVERVIEW

Parents and carers have choice in deciding if their child brings a mobile phone or device to school. The use of a mobile phone or digital device must be balanced with the student's personal responsibility to use the device appropriately.

On school grounds, student mobile phones and smart watches must be switched off and stored safely in their school bag, ie. *off and away all day*, unless the student has been granted an exemption.

Parents, students and staff have shared responsibility for supporting the Student Mobile Phones Policy. All communication between parents and students, during school hours, should occur via the school's administration. Staff are expected to model appropriate use of mobile electronic devices.

AGREEMENT

Annually, parents electronically acknowledge the *Digital Technology User Agreement*, which includes personal mobile electronic devices including mobile phones and smart watches are *off and away all day*.

PROCEDURE

A breach of appropriate use is managed in accordance with this policy, the *Positive Student Behaviour Support Policy* and the *Digital Technology User Agreement*. In any instance where a student has a mobile digital device visible once they have entered the school grounds, without an exemption, the following procedures apply:

- The student will be asked to hand the device to the staff member;
- The staff member will deliver the device to Administration, where it will be stored safely;
- Parents will be notified;
- Parents can collect the device from the front office after receiving the notice; and
- Continued breaches of the policy will result in a permanent ban of the mobile device at school for the individual student.

Personal belongings of staff and students are not covered against loss, theft, damage or misadventure by the Department of Education insurer.