



MOBILE PHONES & PERSONAL DEVICES USED BY CHILDREN

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community Auburn Primary School's policy requirements and expectations relating to the safe, responsible and respectful use of mobile phones and other personal devices with similar functions, including smartwatches, by students at school or during school activities.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Auburn Primary School
2. Students' personal mobile phones and other personal mobile devices, including smartwatches, brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.

DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this policy, a personal mobile device is a device that is both portable and capable of collecting, storing, transmitting or processing electronic data or images such as smartphones and smartwatches. This does not include iPads or other devices such as Samsung that are used for Educational purposes.

POLICY

Auburn Primary School understands that students may bring a personal mobile phone or other device such as a smartwatch to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school or to extra-curricula activities.

At Auburn Primary School

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones or other personal devices to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours
- Exceptions to this policy may be applied if certain conditions are met
- When emergencies occur, parents or carers should reach their child by calling the school's office.

Personal mobile phone use

In accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy](#) issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used at Auburn Primary School during school hours, including lunchtime and recess, unless an exception has been granted.

Where a student has been granted an exception, the student must use their mobile phone for the purpose for which the exception was granted, and in a safe, ethical and responsible manner.

Secure Storage

Personal mobile devices such as mobile phones and smartwatches owned by students at Auburn Primary School are considered valuable items and are brought to school at the owner's (student's or parent/carer's) risk. Students are

encouraged not to bring a mobile phone to school unless there is a compelling reason to do so. Please note that Auburn Primary School does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage or theft.

Insurance

Please note that Auburn Primary School does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage or theft. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items.

Exceptions

Exceptions to the policy, may be applied during schools if certain conditions are met, specifically,

- Health and wellbeing-related exceptions such as to monitor an illness such as diabetes
- Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite
- Can be granted by the principal, ~~or by the teacher for that class~~, in accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy](#).

Camps, excursions and extracurricular activities

Auburn Primary School will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can or cannot be brought to camps, excursions, special activities and events, including personal mobile phones and/or other personal mobile devices such as smartwatches.

This policy does not apply to

- Out of School Hours (OSHC)
- Out of school hours events
- Travelling to and from school
- iPads and other devices such as Samsung used for educational purposes during school hours, including lunch and recess

Enforcement

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Auburn Primary School may be issued with consequences consistent with our existing [Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy](#) and [Bullying Prevention Policy](#)

In some circumstances, students mobile phones and other personal mobile devices such as smartwatches may be confiscated and stored securely at the school office.

At Auburn Primary School inappropriate use of a mobile phone or smartwatch is any use during school hours, unless and exception has been granted. Examples include but are not limited to

- use in any way that disrupts the learning of others
- to send inappropriate, harassing or threatening messages or phone calls,
- to capture video or images, including students, staff and members of the school community without their permission

Related Policies and Resources

- [Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy](#)
- [Bullying Prevention Policy](#)
- [Digital Learning \(Internet, Social Media and Digital Devices\)](#)
- [Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy](#).

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

This policy was last reviewed in February 2022 and will be reviewed in 2024 or as required.