



MOBILE PHONES – STUDENT USE

Learning for Life

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department's and Deer Park North Primary policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones and other mobile devices such as SMART Watches during school hours

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Deer Park North Primary School
2. Students' personal mobile phones [and other personal mobile devices such as SMART watches] brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.

DEFINITIONS

A mobile phone is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network.

"For the purpose of this policy, "mobile phone" refers to mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as smart watches."

POLICY

Deer Park North Primary School understands that students may bring a personal mobile phone to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school.

At Deer Park North Primary

- Parents who allow their child to bring mobile phones to school must give written consent and have them switched off and securely stored during school hours
- 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 Deer Park North Primary during school hours, including lunchtime and recess, unless an exception has been granted.

Secure storage

Mobile phones owned by students at Deer Park North 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 Deer Park North Primary 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.

Where students bring a mobile phone to school, Deer Park North Primary will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Deer Park North Primary students are required to submit their phones to the school office when they arrive.

Enforcement

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Deer Park North Primary may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing student engagement policies

At Deer Park North Primary inappropriate use of mobile phones is **any use during school hours**, unless an exception has been granted, and particularly use of a mobile phone:

- in any way that disrupts the learning of others
- to send inappropriate, harassing or threatening messages or phone calls
- to engage in inappropriate social media use including cyber bullying
- to capture video or images of people, including students, teachers and members of the school community without their permission
- to capture video or images in the school toilets, changing rooms, swimming pools and gyms
- during exams and assessments

Exceptions

Exceptions to the policy:

- can be granted by the Principal, or by the teacher for that class, in accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy](#).

The three categories of exceptions allowed under the Department's [Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy](#) are:

1. Health and wellbeing-related exceptions

| Specific exception | Documentation |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Students with a health condition | Student Individual Health Plan |
| | |

2. Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite

| Specific exception | Documentation |
|---|--|
| Travelling to and from excursions | Risk Assessment planning documentation |
| Students on excursions and camps | Risk Assessment planning documentation |
| When students are offsite (not on school grounds) and unsupervised with parental permission | Risk Assessment planning documentation |
| Students with a dual enrolment or who need to undertake intercampus travel | Risk Assessment planning documentation |

Where an exception is granted, the student can only use the mobile phone for the purpose for which it was granted.

Camps, excursions and extracurricular activities

Deer Park North Primary 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.]

Exclusions

This policy does not apply to

- Out-of-School-Hours Care (OSHC)
- Out-of-school-hours events
- Travelling to and from school

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website (or insert other online parent/carer/student communication method)
- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Included in school newsletter
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at annual staff briefings/meetings
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Student Wellbeing and Engagement, Code of Conduct,

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Policy last reviewed | or earlier as required] |
| Consultation | [consultation is not mandatory but is recommended – 31 st 03/2022insert date/s and who you consulted with e.g. student representative groups, parent groups, School Council] |
| Approved by | Principal |
| Next scheduled review date | 2026 |