



MOBILE PHONES- STUDENT USE POLICY

Kingsbury Primary School

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department's and Kingsbury Primary School's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones and other personal mobile devices during school hours.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Kingsbury Primary School and,
2. Students' personal mobile phones and other personal mobile devices 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 tablets and any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as smart watches."

POLICY

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

At Kingsbury:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours at the school office
- Exceptions to this policy may be applied if certain conditions are met (see below for further information)
- 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 Kingsbury 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. The phone call must take place in the school office.

Secure storage

Mobile phones owned by students at Kingsbury are considered valuable items and are brought to school at the owner'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 Kingsbury 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, Kingsbury Primary School will provide secure storage. This is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Kingsbury, students are required to hand their phones to the administration staff in the office for secure storage at the start of the day. They can then be collected at the completion of the school day.

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Kingsbury may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing student engagement policies e.g. Student Engagement and Wellbeing Policy, Bullying Prevention Policy and Statement of Values. In some circumstances, (such as abuse of this policy, students' devices may be confiscated and stored securely in the Principal's office).

At Kingsbury, 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:

- may be applied during school hours if certain conditions are met, specifically,
 - Health and wellbeing-related exceptions; and
 - 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.

The three categories of exceptions allowed under the Department's Mobile Phones- Student use Policy are:

1. Learning-related exceptions
2. Health and wellbeing-related exceptions (for example, a student with diabetes who uses their phone for glucose monitoring).
3. Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite

Where an exception is granted, the student can only use the mobile phone for the purpose for which it was granted. All requests for exceptions should be discussed with the principal and will be approved on a case-by-case basis.

Camps, excursions and extracurricular activities

Kingsbury 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.

Exclusions

This policy does not apply to

- Out-of-school-hours events
- Travelling to and from school

RELATED SCHOOL AND DET POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Student Engagement and Wellbeing Policy](#)
- [Bullying Prevention Policy](#)
- [Statement of Values](#)
- [Mobile Phones- Student Use – Department Policy](#)

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was last updated in March 2021 and is scheduled for review in March 2024.

Signed



School Council President