



MOBILE PHONES POLICY

STUDENT USE

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department's and Doreen 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 Doreen Primary School and any 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.

POLICY

It is the Policy at Doreen Primary School that no child has a Mobile Phone at School. The school understands however that due to personal welfare, students may need to bring a personal mobile phone to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school. These students would need to be granted an exemption from the Principal, but also follow set guidelines on usage. Below are a few possible exceptions to this policy.

At Doreen Primary School:

- Students who have an exemption to this policy and choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and hand them to their classroom teacher who will arrange for them to be securely stored during school hours
- 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 Doreen 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

Mobile phones owned by students at Doreen Primary school are considered valuable items and are brought to school at the owner's (student's or parent/carer's) risk. Students are not to bring a mobile phone to school unless there is a compelling reason to do so. Please note that Doreen 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.

Where students have an exemption from this Policy and bring a mobile phone to school, Doreen Primary School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. This in no way means Doreen Primary School takes responsibility for the mobile device.

Enforcement

Students who bring Mobile Phones to Doreen Primary school without an exemption and/or use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Doreen Primary School will be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing Student Engagement Policy in the Code of Conduct area.

At Doreen Primary School 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

Specific exception	Documentation
For specific learning activities (class-based exception)	Unit of work, learning sequence
For students for whom a reasonable adjustment to a learning program is needed because of a disability or learning difficulty	Individual Learning Plan, Individual Education Plan

2. Health and wellbeing-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
Students with a health condition	Student Health Support Plan
Students with challenging travel arrangements as deemed by Principal in consultation with Careers.	Principal Consultation

3. Camps, excursions and extracurricular activities

Doreen 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

- Travelling to and from school
- Wearable devices

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 school newsletter
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at annual staff briefings/meetings
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	April 2022
Consultation	Tabled at Staff Meeting, Staff email.
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	April 2025



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the Principal