

MOBILE PHONES – STUDENT USE POLICY

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department's and Lara Lake Primary School's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones [and other personal mobile devices] during school hours. In alignment with Department objectives, the school policy seeks to eliminate:

- Use of mobile phones in any way that disrupts the learning of others
- The sending of inappropriate, harassing or threatening messages or phone calls
- Engaging in inappropriate social media use including cyber bullying
- Capturing video or images of people, including students, teachers and members of the school community without their permission
- Capturing video or images in the school toilets, changing rooms, swimming pools and gyms
- Distraction during school time

SCOPE

This policy applies to all students at Lara Lake Primary School.

DEFINITIONS

A mobile phone is a device 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, including tablets and smart watches.

IMPLEMENTATION

- Mobile phones are not to be brought to school by any student nor provided to a student by an adult 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 must communicate with their child via the school office
- 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
- Students granted exceptions are not permitted to use their mobile phones before school, during recess breaks or after school without staff supervision
- Camps and excursions are classified as school activities and the same policy applies
- Any item owned by students or parent/carers students, and considered valuable, is brought to school at the owner's own risk
- Lara Lake Primary School does not have insurance for property damage or theft. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for any type of valuable item brought to school

ENFORCEMENT

- At the beginning of each day, any students who have brought mobile phones into school are required to hand mobile phones in to the office and stored in a secure area. If a student refuses to hand over the items, the school will implement the relevant disciplinary provision within the student code of conduct
- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school without having an exception will have their mobile phone confiscated and stored in a secure area. This area is in the main office and accessible only by designated staff. These will be available for collection from 3.30pm that afternoon. Smart phones not collected by 3.45pm cannot be collected until the following day at 3.30pm

- Students not complying with the implementation points of this policy will be issued with consequences consistent with the school's existing Student Engagement & Wellbeing Policy. The student behaviour management procedures describe the steps taken if students do not comply

EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions to the policy may be granted by the Principal under four areas.

1. Learning-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
For specific learning activities (class-based exception)	The Years 4 to 6 BYO iPad program at Lara Lake PS. Note: These can only be used at school during class time. Any use outside these boundaries is a contravention of our policy.
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, Individual Learning Plan, Individual Education Plan

Note: Some examples of health and wellbeing related exceptions may include a student with diabetes may require use of their mobile phone app to monitor/record their blood sugar.

3. In consideration of managing risk when students are offsite

Specific exception	Documentation
Students with a dual enrolment or who need to undertake intercampus travel	Risk assessment planning documentation

4. Other exception, as supported by the Principal

Specific exception	Documentation
Student specific case where the carrying of a mobile phone is an urgent necessity	Case specific, as requested by the Principal

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

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was last updated on 2019 and is scheduled for review on 2021.