



Dingley Primary School

Student Mobile Phone Policy

Written by	Principal
Date Approved by School Council	December 2019
Date of Review	December 2022

1. Purpose

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

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- 2.1. All students at Dingley Primary School and,
- 2.2. Students' personal mobile phones brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.

3. 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."

4. Policy

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

At Dingley Primary School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours.
- The Department of Education and Training does not have insurance for personal property of students. Dingley Primary School does not take responsibility for items of personal property that are lost, stolen or damaged at school or during school activities. Damage to personal property brought to school is the responsibility of the owner of that property.
- 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 Policy](#) issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used at Dingley Primary School during school hours, including lunchtime and recess.

Secure storage

Mobile phones owned by students at Dingley 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 Dingley 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 bring a mobile phone to school, Dingley Primary School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Dingley Primary School students are required to store their phones. All mobile phones will be securely stored at the school office during school hours.

Enforcement

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Dingley Primary School may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing student engagement policies: *Student Wellbeing and Engagement* and *Bullying Prevention* policies.

At Dingley Primary School inappropriate use of mobile phones is **any use during school hours** 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.

Exceptions

This policy does not apply to:



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

5. Related policies and resources

- Dingley Primary School *Student Wellbeing and Engagement*, and *Bullying Prevention*
- [Mobile Phones – Department Policy](#)
- [Personal Goods Policy – Department Policy](#)

6. Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.