

## Mobile Phone – Student Use

### PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department's and Osborne Primary School policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones and other personal mobile devices during school hours. This policy also includes guidelines for smartwatches that may have communication or mobile-like capabilities.

### SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Osborne 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 and any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as smart watches.

### POLICY

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

At Osborne Primary School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school, on arrival, must have them switched off and presented for secure storage in the school office
- Smartwatches must also be presented for secure storage upon arrival and are subject to the same rules as mobile phones
- 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 [Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy](#) issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used at Osborne 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 device for the purpose for which the exception was granted, and in a safe, ethical and responsible manner.



## Secure Storage

Mobile phone devices owned by students at Osborne 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 device to school unless there is a compelling reason to do so. Please note that Osborne 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 device to school, Osborne Primary School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Osborne Primary School students are required to store their mobile phone device (including smart watches) by handing them into the school administration office to be placed in a lockable storage box.

## Enforcement

Students who use their personal mobile phone devices inappropriately at Osborne Primary School may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing student engagement policies [Osborne Primary School's *Student Wellbeing and Engagement* and/or *Code of Conduct* policies.]

At Osborne Primary School inappropriate use of mobile phones is **any use during school hours**, unless an exception has been granted, which may include:

- 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

Exceptions to the policy:

- may be applied during school hours if certain conditions are met, specifically,
  - Health and wellbeing-related exceptions (see below); and
- can be granted by the principal in accordance with the Department's Mobile Phones Policy.

The category of exceptions allowed under the Department's Mobile Phones Policy are:

Specific exception	Documentation
Students with a health condition	Student Health Support Plan

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

## COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request


## RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- Osborne Primary School Student Wellbeing and Engagement
- Osborne Primary School Code of Conduct
- Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy



- Weapons — Banning, Searching and Seizing Harmful Items
- Claims for Property Damage and Medical Expenses policy

**POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

Policy last reviewed	17/09/2024
Consultation	School Council 
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	17/09/2027

