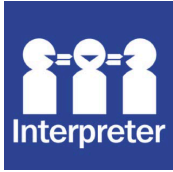




MOBILE PHONES POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school office.

PURPOSE

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

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Antonio Park Primary School and,
2. Students' personal mobile phones 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

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

At Antonio Park Primary School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours
- Where students bring a mobile phone to school, the school will provide secure storage
- Exceptions to this policy may be applied if certain conditions are met
- 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 Antonio Park 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 Antonio Park 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 Antonio Park 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, Antonio Park Primary School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Antonio Park Primary School students are required to hand their mobile phones into their teacher at the start of each day to be placed in a lockable cupboard.

Enforcement

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Antonio Park Primary School may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy.

At Antonio Park Primary School inappropriate use of mobile phones is **any use during school hours**, unless an exception has been granted.

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, 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

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.

Camps, excursions and extracurricular activities

Antonio Park 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 Care (OSHC)
- Travelling to and from school
- Wearable devices
- iPads and all other personal devices

COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Included in school newsletter
- Included in staff handbook
- Discussed at annual staff briefings/meetings
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [DET Mobile Phones – Student Use Policy](#)
- [Claims for Property Damage and Medical Expenses policy](#)
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POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	August 2024
Consultation	School Council - August 2024
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	August 2028