

# MOBILE PHONES – STUDENT USE



## PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department's and Kallista 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 Kallista 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. However, please note that 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

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

At Kallista Primary School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours, either with their teacher, or at the office
- Exceptions to this policy may be applied if certain conditions are met and approved by the principal (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 Kallista 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. The phone will then be placed back in secure storage.

### Secure storage

Mobile phones and other devices such as smart watches, etc., that are owned by students at Kallista 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 Kallista 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, Kallista Primary School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Kallista Primary School students are required to hand their phones to their teachers on arrival at school, to be stored securely.

## Enforcement

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at our school may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing student engagement policies, such as the *Student Management Policy*, the *Student Wellbeing and Engagement* and the *Bullying* policy, which includes Cyber Bullying. These may be found on our school website.

At Kallista 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 or other electronic communication device, such as a smart phone or other, in a 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 this policy that are relevant and will apply at our primary school are health and wellbeing-related exceptions, and must be granted by the principal. The exception will be considered and agreed to in the context of a Student Support Group process, where a student with a health condition, for example, has the mobile phone as part of a 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.

## Exclusions

This policy does not apply to travelling to and from school

### RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Ban, Search and Seize Harmful Items Department information](#)
- Personal Goods Policy attached

### REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was last updated in February, 2020, and is scheduled for review in February, 2022.

# PERSONAL PROPERTY POLICY



## PURPOSE

To explain Kallista Primary School's policy in relation to personal property and to ensure that special or valuable items of personal property are not brought to school.

## SCOPE

This policy applies to all school activities, including camps and excursions.

## POLICY

Kallista Primary School understands that staff and/or students may sometimes like to bring items of personal property to school.

The Department of Education and Training does not have insurance for personal property of staff, students and visitors. Kallista 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.

Kallista primary School encourages staff and students not to bring items of value to school, or to obtain appropriate insurance for such items.

If students bring items of value to school, they will be confiscated and stored securely at the school office until the end of the day, when the items may be collected by the student and/or parent.

## REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last updated in February, 2020, and is scheduled for review in February, 2022.