



MOBILE PHONE POLICY – STUDENT USE

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department's and Leongatha 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 Leongatha Primary School and,
2. Students' personal mobile phones and other personal 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

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

At Leongatha Primary School

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours
- 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 Leongatha 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 Leongatha 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 Leongatha 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, Leongatha Primary School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Leongatha Primary School students are required to store their phones by handing them to their teacher when they arrive at their classroom. The teacher will then store their personal mobile device in a safe secure place.

Enforcement

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Leongatha Primary School may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing student engagement policy, Leongatha Primary school - Student Code of Conduct.

At Leongatha 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

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Mobile Phones – Department Policy](#)
- [Ban, Search and Seize Harmful Items](#)
- [Personal Goods – Department policy](#)

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was last ratified by School Council on 9 December, 2019 and is scheduled for review in November 2022