



Harston Primary School
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HARSTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

MOBILE PHONE - STUDENT USE POLICY

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department's and Harston Primary School's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones, and other devices such as smart watches, during school hours.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Harston Primary School and,
2. Students' personal mobile phones, and other devices such as smart watches 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

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

At Harston Primary School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours
- 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 — Student Use Policy](#) issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used at Harston 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 Harston 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 Harston 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. Refer to the Department's [Claims for Property Damage and Medical Expenses policy](#).

Where students bring a mobile phone to school, Harston Primary School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Harston Primary School students are required to store their phones in the front office to be locked in the file.

Enforcement

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Harston Primary School may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's *Student Wellbeing and Engagement* policy

At Harston 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:

- 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
- during exams and assessments

Camps, excursions and extracurricular activities

Harston 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.

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
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- Other relevant school policies include *Student Wellbeing and Engagement*, *Code of Conduct*, *Personal Property*, *Bullying*
- [Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy](#)
- [Claims for Property Damage and Medical Expenses policy](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	February 2024
Consultation	Not required
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	April 2027