



RATIONALE

At Solway Primary School the safety and education of our students is a priority. This means having clear, concise and enforced process and protocols for the students to follow around the storage and use of mobile phones at school.

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community Solway Primary School's policy requirements, and expectations regarding the safe and appropriate use of personal mobile devices by students, at school or during school activities.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all students at Solway Primary School.

DEFINITIONS

Personal mobile devices are portable computing and communication devices such as smartphones, tablet computers and smart watches.

POLICY

Solway Primary School understands that students may bring a personal mobile device to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school or to extra-curricular activities.

During school hours, mobile phones, smart watches and other personal wrist-worn devices must be switched off, and handed into the class teacher at the beginning of the school day, for storage in the Teacher Office

Students are not permitted to access their personal mobile devices during lunchtime and recess. All personal mobile devices must be named.

Personal mobile device use

Personal mobile devices must not be used:

- during class or assemblies or 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 gym

Students who use their mobile phone inappropriately at school may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's *Student Wellbeing and Engagement* and/or *Bullying* policies.

In some circumstances, students' mobile phones may be confiscated and stored securely at the Office for parents/carers to collect.

Students **are not** permitted to access their personal mobile devices during lunchtime or recess.

Personal wrist-worn devices

Personal wrist-worn devices include smart watches, step counters, GPS devices and any other digital device worn on the wrist.

- Smart watches are not permitted to be worn by students at Solway Primary School – this includes any device that can be linked to another digital device
- Step counters (FitBit, Garmin etc.) and GPS trackers are not permitted to be worn by students at Solway Primary School during school hours as they cause undue distraction
- Digital watches that have no other function than telling time are permitted to be worn by students

There may be circumstances in which a parent may apply to the Principal for an exemption from this policy on the basis of safety and/or wellbeing requirements particular to that student.

Insurance

Students are responsible for their personal mobile device/s. Please note that Solway Primary School does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance

for valuable items, including personal mobile devices that may be brought to school. Students are responsible for items brought to school.

Camps and excursions

Students will not be allowed to bring their personal mobile devices on excursions or camps. Solway Primary School will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can be brought to special activities and events, including contact details in case of an emergency.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

This policy should be read in conjunction with our school's:

- *Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy*
- *Internet and social Media Policies*
- School Policy and Advisory Guide: [Students Using Mobile Phones](#)

REVIEW CYCLE OR EVALUATION

This policy was last updated on June 2019 and is scheduled for review in 2022.