

Dorset Primary School No.5132

MOBILE DEVICES POLICY

PURPOSE

This policy explains Dorset PS' policy, procedures and expectations regarding the safe and appropriate use of personal mobile devices by students at school or during school activities, as required by all Victorian state schools.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all students at Dorset PS. It applies to any personal mobile devices that have not been approved by Dorset PS for the purpose of carrying out and engaging in the teaching and learning of the curriculum.

DEFINITIONS

Personal mobile devices can include (but are not limited to) portable computing and communication devices such as smartphones, media players, tablet computers and smart watches.

POLICY

Mobile Phones

Dorset PS understands that students may bring a personal mobile device to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school or to extracurricular activities. During school hours of 8:45-3:45, all mobile phones must be switched off, and locked securely in the classroom. Students are not permitted to access their mobile phones during lunchtime or recess, unless they have been granted permission from a supervising teacher or have been exempted from this policy by the Principal.

Tablets, Smart Watches and Other Mobile Devices

- Students are not permitted to bring tablet computers to school
- Smart Watches and Activity Tracker devices are acceptable at school if they are used appropriately. Any misuse of such devices will result in confiscation.

Students who are in breach of this policy will have their devices confiscated and stored securely by a staff member. In these circumstances, the mobile device will usually be returned to the student or their parent/carer at the end of the school day, consistent with DET's [Ban, Search and Seize Harmful Items](#) Policy.

Exemptions

There may be circumstances in which a parent may apply to the Principal on behalf of their child for an exemption from this policy on the basis of safety and/or wellbeing requirements particular to that student. If this is the case, please contact the Principal in writing.

Insurance

Students are responsible for their personal mobile device. Dorset PS is not responsible for any loss, theft or damage of a personal mobile device.

Camps and excursions

In most circumstances, students will not be allowed to bring their personal mobile device on camps or excursions. Dorset PS will provide students and their parents/carers with information about items that can be brought to special activities and events, including personal mobile devices.

Staff

Staff will not use mobile devices for personal reasons when supervising students. Staff may access mobile devices in case of emergency situations including but not limited to;

- Lockdown or evacuation procedures
- Critical Incidents or medical emergencies
- Unless otherwise agreed to by Principal.

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was last updated in August 2020 and is scheduled for review in August 2021.