

Student Use of Mobile Phones/Devices at School Policy.

Purpose

To explain the school's requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones and smart devices during school hours.

Definitions

A **mobile phone** is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network.

A **smart device** is an electronic device, generally connected to other devices or networks via different wireless protocols such as a Smart Watch and/or fitness tracking device.

Aim

The aim of this policy is to provide a safe environment for students to learn and be social without inappropriate mobile phone and/or smart device use (including cyber bullying) or distractions.

Policy

Student's personal mobile phones and/or smart devices are not required at school and are never used during school hours as part of the curriculum or out on the school yard. Smart watches are not to be brought to school. The school acknowledges that some students may bring a mobile phone to school with parental consent, if they are traveling independently to and from school.

Students who have parental consent to bring mobile phones to school do so at their own risk and must have them switched off and handed in to the classroom teacher at the beginning of the school day. The mobile phone needs to be clearly labeled with student name. The school accepts no responsibility for loss or damage to mobile phones. Phones will be sent to the office to be stored. **Mobile phones are not to be used during the school day (8:30am - 3:30 pm).** This means students are not permitted to take their mobile phones to class and are not permitted to have them in their bag or carry them with them for the entire school day. If a parent or guardian needs to communicate with their child during school hours this must be done via the school office by calling 9308 2011.

Mobile phones used during the day will be confiscated and stored securely at the office. In these circumstances, the parent/guardian must collect it at the end of the school day or when practical in consultation with the Principal/ Deputy Principal.

Health related exemption to OLPS Mobile Phone Policy: A child who has an existing health condition and requires a mobile/smart device as part of their Health Support Plan may use the device for the purpose for which the exemption is granted.

Revised May 2024