



# DUNOLLY PRIMARY SCHOOL

## MOBILE PHONES – STUDENT USE



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the Principal on 54681111.

### PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department's and Dunolly Primary School's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones and other personal mobile devices (smart watches) during school hours.

### SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Dunolly Primary School and,
2. Students' personal mobile phones and other personal mobile devices 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

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

At Dunolly Primary School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored in the office mobile phone lockers 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 — Student Use Policy](#) issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used at Dunolly 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 Dunolly 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 Dunolly 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, Dunolly Primary School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Dunolly Primary School students are required to store hand their mobile phone to the school office to be placed in secure mobile phone storage lockers.

## Enforcement

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

At Dunolly 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

Dunolly 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.

## Exclusions

This policy does not apply to

- Out-of-School-Hours Care (OSHC)
- Out-of-school-hours events
- Travelling to and from school
- iPads and all other personal devices

## COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school’s website and Compass Portal
- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at annual staff briefings/meetings
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

## RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [DPS Student wellbeing engagement policy.docx](#)
- [DPS Bullying prevention policy 2023.docx](#)
- [DPS CSS code of conduct 2023.docx](#)
- [Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy](#)
- [Weapons — Banning, Searching and Seizing Harmful Items](#)
- [Claims for Property Damage and Medical Expenses policy](#)

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	February 2023
Consultation	School Council- February 2023
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	February 2026