



MOBILE PHONE POLICY

PURPOSE

Our students bring mobile phones to school for a variety of reasons. Parents provide their primary school-aged children with a mobile phone for safety and ease of communication, particularly when their child is a bus traveller.

This policy is to ensure our teachers, students and parents have clear advice on the use of mobile phones whilst at school and there are concise and consistent procedures that apply throughout all classrooms. State Government Education Department Policy dictates that from 2020 all Victorian Primary and Secondary school must ban mobile phone use for all students. The aim of this policy is to reduce distraction, tackle cyber-bullying and improve student learning outcomes. Also, there is no personal insurance for expensive personal items that students bring to school.

GOALS

- To support parents in their choice to provide students with mobile phones
- To ensure mobile phone use support the ethics and values of this school as well as the Victorian Education Department Mobile Phone Policy
- To provide an opportunity for all school members to understand clear procedures for bringing mobile phones to school and their use during school hours
- To remind parents that as per DET Policy, private property brought to school by students is not insured by the school or covered by school insurance, and that it is not the responsibility of the Department if that property is lost, stolen or damaged
- To inform families that the school phone line is the only option when wanting to communicate with a student
- To reassure parents that mobile phones will be collected by teachers during school hours and are securely kept

IMPLEMENTATION

- Students are permitted to bring mobile phones to school
- They must, however, be declared to classroom teachers at the beginning of the day, and be handed in to teachers
- All parents and students will sign a Student Consent Form stating that their phone will be given to the teacher at the beginning of the day
- All classrooms will have a lockable, security locker to store student mobile phones during the school day
- Mobile phones will be handed back to students at the end of the day, or in the event of an Emergency Evacuation
- Students who refuse or neglect to hand in phones will be given a copy of this policy to be sent home to parents
- Mobile phone cameras (still, audio and video) **must not be used**:
 - at all on school property
 - to film people and their activities without their knowledge or permission

- to store, transfer or access inappropriate material
- Mobiles phones must not be used to send harassing or threatening messages
- Students must be aware that, as per our Bullying and Harassment Policy, the school will take appropriate action against any student who:
 - photographs or films other individuals without their consent
 - who sends harassing or threatening messages
- As per DET policy, students hold the responsibility for mobile phones whilst travelling to and from school on public transport
- Our mobile phone policy applies during camps, excursions, or any extra-curricular school activity. Students are expected to relinquish their phones on these occasions as per the policy
- Students who are found to have taken a mobile phone to an external excursion or camp, will have the device confiscated for the duration of the event
- Nar Nar Goon Primary School will notify the community of this policy and any changes via the school newsletter, the school website, Sentral and social media

EVALUATION:

- DET Policies
- Feedback from teachers, students, parents and the school community

Related DET policies

- [Bullying](#)
- [Photographing and Filming Students](#)

This Policy was ratified by School Council – August 2019