

Policy

Purpose

To explain to our school community the Department's and Kororoit Creek Primary School's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones and other personal mobile devices during school hours.

Scope

This policy applies to:

1. All students at KCPS
2. Students' personal mobile phones and other personal mobile devices brought onto school premises (the premises is defined by the boundary of the school)

Definitions

A mobile phone is a telephone or Smartphone or Smart device with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network. This includes smartwatches.

Policy

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

At KCPS:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours
- Exceptions to this policy may be applied if a specific arrangement has been made with the Principal or Assistant Principal
- 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 Policy](#) issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used at KCPS 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 KCPS 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 KCPS 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 [Personal Goods policy](#).

Enforcement

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at KCPS will have their device confiscated until the end of the school day and parents will be contacted. For repeated occurrences the phone will be confiscated and parents will be contacted and arrangements made to collect the phone.

At KCPS inappropriate use of mobile phones is **any use during school hours including school camps** 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 assessments

Exceptions

Exceptions to the policy:

- may be applied during school hours if certain conditions are met, specifically,
 - Health and wellbeing-related exceptions; and
 - Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite.
- can be granted by the principal, or by the teacher for that class, in accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#).

The category of exceptions allowed under the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#) is:

1. Health and wellbeing-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
Students with a health condition	Student Health Support Plan

Where an exception is granted, the student can only use the mobile phone for the purpose for which it was granted.

Camps, excursions and extracurricular activities

KCPS will provide students and their parents and carers with information about and alternative methods of communication during camps.

Exclusions

This policy does not apply to

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

Related policies and resources

- [Student Engagement and Inclusion Policy](#)
- [Anti-bullying Policy](#)
- [Mobile Phones – Department Policy](#)
- [Ban, Search and Seize Harmful Items – Department policy](#)
- [Personal Goods – Department policy](#)

Review Cycle and Evaluation

This policy was last updated on 2nd March 2020 and is due to be reviewed every 3-4 years.

Kororoit Creek Primary School has a zero tolerance for any form of child abuse