



Castletown Primary School STUDENT MOBILE PHONES IN SCHOOLS POLICY

Policy

The Department of Education does not permit student use of mobile phones in public schools unless for medical or teacher directed educational purpose.

It is important to note that it is not a requirement at Castletown Primary School for students to have a mobile phone at school.

Castletown Primary School recognises that an increasing number of parents/carers who for safety, security and/or emergency purposes wish to provide their children with mobile phones. This policy details the conditions under which mobile phones are permitted at Castletown Primary School

Conditions of Use

- The use of mobile phones for all students will be banned from the time they arrive at school to the conclusion of the school day. This includes before school and at break times. Students are not permitted to have mobile phones in their possession during the school day.
- Mobile phones must be switched off and handed to the classroom teacher before the commencement of the school day. Students can collect their mobile phone at the end of the school day. The classroom teacher will clearly identify and secure the student's mobile phone.

Exemptions and Communication

- Exemptions to this ban include where a student requires a mobile phone:
 - to monitor a health condition as part of a school approved documented health care plan; or
 - under the direct instruction of a teacher for educational purposes; or with permission of a teacher for a specified purpose.
- Smart watches must be in 'aeroplane mode' so phone calls and messages cannot be sent or received during the school day.
- While at Castletown Primary School students are the responsibility of the school. All communication between parents and students, during school hours, should occur via the school's administration.
- Castletown Primary School has duty of care for all students when they are attending the school. In emergencies, where students need to get in contact with parents/carers, students are to notify the appropriate school staff. If parents/carers need to contact their children, they are asked to contact the school directly.

Breaches of this Policy

- Breaches of this policy will be managed in accordance with the *School Behaviour Management Policy and Procedures*.
- Students who do not comply with this policy will have their mobile phone confiscated and held at the administration office. The parent/carer will be informed and requested to collect the mobile phone at their earliest convenience.
- In the case of repeated inappropriate mobile phone use by a student, the principal may request the withdrawing of the mobile phone from the school for a determined period or permanently.
- Further disciplinary action, in accordance with Castletown Primary School student behaviour policy and procedures may be a result of repeated breaches and or depending on the circumstances of the breach.

Further Guidance

For the purposes of this policy, 'mobile phones' includes smart watches and associated listening accessories, such as, but not limited to, headphones and ear buds.