



Purpose

To explain to our school community the Department of Education and Training's and Frankston 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:

- All students at Frankston Primary School
- Students' personal mobile phones and other personal mobile devices such as smart watches etc brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.

Definition:

- 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 ipads and smart watches.

Implementation

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

At Frankston Primary School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones or related devices to school must have them switched off and securely stored at the front school office on arrival on school premises.
- Students who choose to bring mobile phones or related devices to school are able to pick them up from the front office at the end of the school day after the 3.30pm bell has sounded.
- When emergencies occur, parents or carers should reach their child by calling the school's office directly.

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 Frankston 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 or devices owned by students at Frankston 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 Frankston 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. Please refer to the Department of Education and Training's [Claims for Property Damage and Medical Expenses](#) policy and/or Frankston Primary School's Personal Property Policy.

Where students bring a mobile phone to school, Frankston Primary School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Frankston Primary School students are required to:

- Switch off mobile phone and device and securely stored at the front school office on arrival on school premises.
- Pick up mobile phone and devices from the front office at the end of the school day after the 3.30pm bell has sounded.

The school will store all mobile phones and devices in a secure cupboard in the school office.

Enforcement

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Frankston Primary School may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing Student Engagement, Bullying and Harassment and Student Management Policies.

At Frankston 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

Exceptions

Exceptions to the policy:

- can be granted by the Principal or Assistant Principal, if certain conditions are met, specifically:
- Health and wellbeing-related exceptions; and
- Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite
- For specific learning activities (class-based exemption)
- For student for whom a reasonable adjustment to a learning program is needed because of a disability or learning difficulty
- in accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy](#)

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

Communication

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in school newsletter
- Communicated to staff via email communication and discussed where required
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy](#)

REVIEWED	202022
PRINCIPAL	Renée Kennedy
CONSULTATION	School Council – March 2022
EVALUATION	This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three year review cycle, or as required due to changes in relevant Acts, Laws, DET mandates, or should situations arise that require earlier consideration.