



CRAIGIEBURN PRIMARY SCHOOL

MOBILE PHONE POLICY – STUDENT USE

Craigieburn Primary School aligns with the DET *Mobile Phone Policy*.

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department's and Craigieburn Primary School's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones and other personal mobile devices i.e Smart watches during school hours.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Craigieburn Primary School and students' personal mobile phones and other personal mobile devices brought 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

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

At Craigieburn Primary School:

- 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 certain conditions are met (see below for further information)
- 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 Craigieburn 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 Craigieburn 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 Craigieburn 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 [Personal Goods policy](#).

Where students bring a mobile phone to school, Craigieburn Primary School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Craigieburn Primary School students are required to store their phones in the storage container locked in the classroom filing cabinet.

Enforcement

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Craigieburn Primary School may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing student engagement policy.

At Craigieburn Primary School inappropriate use of mobile phones is **any use during school hours**, unless an exception has been granted, and particularly the 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

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, in accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#).

The three categories of exceptions allowed under the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#) are:

1. Learning-related exceptions

2. Health and wellbeing-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
Students with a health condition	Needs outlined in student's Health Support Plan Monitoring blood sugar levels for diabetics

3. Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite

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

Craigieburn Primary School students cannot bring mobile phones to camps, excursions, special activities and events.

Exclusions

This policy does not apply to

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

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- Please see School Website for associated policies
- [Mobile Phones – Department Policy](#)

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was last updated in 2020 and is scheduled for review in February 2023.