



Nullawarre and District Primary School

POLICY:	MOBILE PHONES – STUDENT USE
SCHOOL COUNCIL CONSULTATION:	November 2022
TO BE REVIEWED:	As part of the school’s four-year review cycle or when changes occur to the Department’s “School Policy and Advisory Guide” – November 2026



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Nullawarre and District Primary School for assistance.

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department’s and Nullawarre and District 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 Nullawarre and District Primary School and,
2. Students’ personal mobile phones and other personal mobile devices brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.

DEFINITIONS

A mobile phone or other personal device is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network

POLICY

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

At Nullawarre and District Primary School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones or other personal devices 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 – Student Use Policy](#) issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used at Nullawarre and District 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 and other personal mobile devices owned by students at Nullawarre and District 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 at Nullawarre and District 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 Nullawarre and District Primary School's Personal Property Policy and the Department's [Claims for Property Damage and Medical Expenses policy](#).

Where students bring a mobile phone or other personal mobile devices to school, Nullawarre and District Primary School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Nullawarre and District Primary School students are required to hand their mobile phone or other personal mobile device into the school office to be placed in lockable storage.

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Nullawarre and District Primary School may be issued with consequences, as set by the principal.

At Nullawarre and District 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:

- 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 — Student Use Policy](#).

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

- 1. Learning-related exceptions**
- 2. Health and wellbeing-related exceptions**
- 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, and this will be clearly defined within the student's Individual Education Plan.

Camps, excursions and extracurricular activities

Nullawarre and District Primary School will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can or cannot be brought to camps, excursions, special activities and events, including personal mobile phones.

This policy does not apply to

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

COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's
- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- Personal Property
- DET [Mobile Phones – Student Use Policy](#)

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff induction processes and annual staff training
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request