

# MOBILE PHONES – STUDENT USE POLICY



DRAFT 9.12.2019

## PURPOSE

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

## SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Camelot Rise Primary School and,
2. Students' personal mobile phones, smartwatches and other personal mobile devices brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.

## DEFINITIONS

"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

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

At Camelot Rise Primary School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours (a lockable safe will be available in Unit B and between 5Y and 5WT)
- 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 Camelot Rise 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 Camelot Rise 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 Camelot Rise 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.

Where students bring a mobile phone to school, Camelot Rise Primary School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Camelot Rise Primary School, students are required to store their phones in the lockable safe available in Unit B and between 5Y and 5WT. Please ensure the phone is named or alternatively placed in a ziplock bag with the students name on it.

### Enforcement

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Camelot Rise Primary School may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing student engagement policies. In particular, the CRPS Student Engagement and Wellbeing and/or Ant- Bullying policies.

At Camelot Rise 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
- 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, or by the teacher for that class, 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

Specific exception	Application process
For specific learning activities where the use of a mobile phone can be demonstrated as the most appropriate learning tool to be used.	Teachers will make application for these exemptions.
For students for whom a reasonable adjustment to a learning program is needed because of a disability or learning difficulty	The individual student's Student Support Group will make this application on their behalf. Documentation required: Individual Learning Plan and/or Individual Education Plan that clearly demonstrates that a mobile phone is the only appropriate ICT option.

#### 2. Health and wellbeing-related exceptions

Specific exception	Application process
Students with a health condition	Parents can make an application through the Student Wellbeing Coordinator. Documentation required:

	Student Health Support Plan with associated medical practitioner's report
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### 3. Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite

Specific exception	Application process
Students on excursions and camps	Supervising teachers will make an application on behalf of the students. Risk assessment documentation required.
Students offsite and unsupervised with parent permission (eg attending VET course)	Sub school heads and/or careers and pathways coordinator will make an application on behalf of the student. Risk assessment documentation required.

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

Camelot Rise 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.

#### Exclusions

This policy does not apply to

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

#### RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- **CRPS** Student Engagement and Wellbeing, Code of Conduct, Anti-Bullying
- Mobile Phones – Department Policy
- Ban, Search and Seize Harmful Items - Department Policy
- Personal Property, Personal Goods – Department Policy

#### CERTIFICATION

This policy was endorsed by School Council at the meeting held on 16th May 2019.

Signed..... Signed.....

Principal

School Council President

#### REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was last updated on 10.12.2019 and is scheduled for review in November 2022.