

MOBILE PHONES POLICY



PURPOSE

To explain the Department of Education's requirements and Frankston Heights Primary School's expectations regarding the possession and use of mobile phones and certain personal electronic devices by students during school hours.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- all students enrolled at Frankston Heights Primary School
- students' mobile phones and other personal electronic devices covered by this policy that are brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunch breaks.

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy, mobile phone includes any mobile phone or personal electronic device capable of communication, internet access, photography, video recording or audio recording, whether connected to a cellular (mobile telecommunications) network, Wi-Fi or another network. This includes devices with mobile phone functionality.

This policy does not apply to standard wrist-worn smartwatches unless they are capable of independent mobile communication (for example, through a cellular/eSIM connection) or are used in a manner that breaches another school policy. Students wearing a smartwatch must switch off all notifications during the school day.

POLICY

Frankston Heights Primary School recognises that some students may need to bring a mobile phone to school, particularly when travelling independently to and from school or attending before or after school activities.

In accordance with the Department of Education's [Mobile Phones - Student Use Policy](#), issued by the Minister for Education, mobile phones must not be used at Frankston Heights Primary School during school hours.

Students who bring a mobile phone to school must switch it off before entering the school grounds and hand it to the school office immediately upon arrival.

The mobile phone will be stored securely by the school for the duration of the school day and can be collected by the student at the end of the school day. The mobile phone must remain switched off until the student has left the school grounds.

Students must not use mobile phones during school hours, including recess and lunch breaks, unless an exception has been approved by the Principal in accordance with this policy.

Secure Storage

Students bring mobile phones to school at their own risk. Frankston Heights Primary School does not provide insurance for loss, theft or accidental damage to personal property. Parents/carers are encouraged to consider appropriate insurance for valuable items brought to school. Refer to the Department's [Claims for Property Damage and Medical Expenses policy](#).

Students are required to hand their mobile phones to the school office upon arrival, where they will be stored securely until the end of the school day.

If a student does not hand in their mobile phone as required, staff will confiscate the device and store it securely at the school office. The mobile phone will generally be returned to the student or their parent/carer at the end of the school day.

Enforcement

Mobile phones must not be used to:

- make or receive phone calls during school hours
- send or receive text messages or other electronic communications
- access the internet or social media
- send inappropriate, offensive, harassing or threatening messages
- engage in cyberbullying or other inappropriate online behaviour
- take photographs, video or audio recordings of students, staff or members of the school community without permission.

Students who use a mobile phone in breach of this policy may receive consequences consistent with the school's Student Engagement and Wellbeing, Behaviour Management and Bullying Prevention policies.

Exceptions

The Principal may approve an exception to this policy in accordance with the Department of Education's [Mobile Phones - Student Use Policy](#).

Where an exception is granted, the mobile phone may only be used for the specific purpose and under the conditions approved by the Principal.

Camps and excursions

Students are not permitted to bring personal mobile phones on school camps or excursions unless expressly authorised by the Principal.

Information provided to families before camps, excursions or other special activities will outline any permitted personal items and communication arrangements.

Exclusions

The mobile phone policy does not apply for activities outside of school hours:

- out-of-school-hours care (OSHC)
- 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 website
- Staff induction and staff manual
- School communication platform, Sentral
- School newsletter

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- FHPS Student Engagement and Wellbeing Policy
- FHPS Bullying Prevention Policy
- FHPS Behaviour Management Policy and Procedures

- Policy Advisory Library:
 - [Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy](#)
 - [Claims for Property Damage and Medical Expenses policy](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	May 2026
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	May 2027