

PERSONAL MOBILE DEVICES POLICY

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community Beaumaris North Primary School's policy requirements, and expectations regarding the safe and appropriate use of personal mobile devices by students, at school or during school activities.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Beaumaris North Primary School and,
2. All personal mobile devices that have not been approved by Beaumaris North Primary School for the purpose of carrying out and engaging in the teaching and learning of the curriculum. Examples of personal mobile devices include (but are not limited to) mobile phones, tablets and smart watches.

DEFINITIONS

A personal mobile device is an electronic device with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network.

POLICY

Beaumaris North Primary School understands that students may bring a personal mobile device to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school or to parent approved extra-curricular activities after school.

- Student personal mobile devices (including mobile phones, tablets and smart watches) must be switched off, and handed to their classroom teacher at the start of the day, to be returned by the teacher at the end of the school day.

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 Beaumaris North 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.

Personal mobile device use

Personal mobile devices must **not** be used:

- in the school grounds during school hours, including times before or after school during operation hours of Outside School Hours Care (OSHC)
- during class or assemblies or 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 gym
- during exams and assessments.

Students who use their personal mobile device inappropriately at school may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's *Student Wellbeing and Engagement* and/or *Bullying* policies.

In some circumstances, students' personal mobile devices may be confiscated and stored securely at the School Office. In these circumstances, the mobile device will be returned to the student or their parent/carer at the end of the school day.

Secure storage

Mobile devices owned by students at Beaumaris North 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 Beaumaris North 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, Beaumaris North Primary School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Beaumaris North Primary School students, personal mobile devices (including mobile phones, tablets and smart watches) must be switched off, and handed to their classroom teacher at the start of the day, to be returned by the teacher at the end of the school day.

Parent Contact

Parents and carers are reminded that if they require to contact their child during school hours, that emails or phone calls must be directed to the school office to pass on the message.

Enforcement

Students who use their personal mobile devices inappropriately at Beaumaris North Primary School may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing student engagement policies in line with our *Student Wellbeing and Engagement* and/or *eSmart Policies*.

At Beaumaris North Primary School inappropriate use of mobile devices 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

Exemptions

There may be circumstances in which a student may apply to the Principal for an exemption from this policy on the basis of safety and/or wellbeing requirements particular to that student. If this is the case, please contact the Principal.

Insurance

Students are responsible for their personal mobile device. Please note that the Beaumaris North Primary School does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items, including personal mobile devices that may be brought to school. Students are responsible for items brought to school.

Camps and excursions

Students will not be allowed to bring their personal mobile device on overnight school camps or excursions. Beaumaris North Primary School will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can be brought to special activities and events, including personal mobile device.

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- BNPS eSmart Policy
- [Mobile Phones – Department Policy](#)
- [Ban, Search and Seize Harmful Items](#)
- [Personal Goods – Department policy](#)

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was ratified by School Council in November 2019 and is scheduled for review in 2022.