

MOBILE PHONES POLICY

PURPOSE

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

SCOPE

This policy applies to members of Billanook Primary School.

POLICY

Billanook Primary School understands that students may bring a mobile phone to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school or to extra-curricular activities.

During school hours, mobile phones must be:

- switched off, and kept in their own school bag on the premises, or
- handed in to the front school office

At Billanook Primary School students are encouraged to develop independence skills and using a mobile phone to ring/sms parents or others to bring to school forgotten items, notices or equipment undermines this development.

Mobile phone use

Mobile phones must not be used:

- during class or at assemblies or in any way that disrupts the learning of others
- to send inappropriate, harassing or threatening messages or phone call
- 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 may constitute an infringement of personal privacy
- to capture video or images in the school toilets, changing rooms and gym.
- Students are not permitted to show their mobile phone, or mobile phone features to other students at any time at school or on school activities
- Parents and visitors are requested to have their mobile phone turned off or on "silent" when visiting or assisting in a classroom
- These implementation strategies apply equally to the inappropriate use of portable computer games, ipads, ipods and similar devices.
- In general, students should not bring valuable items to school.

BILLANOOK PRIMARY SCHOOL – POLICY BOOK

Students who use their mobile phone 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' mobile phones may be confiscated and stored securely at the front office.

Mobile phone use for staff

- At least one mobile phone for staff use per bus/student group is required when taking students out of the school.
- Staff may use a mobile phone at school in the case of an emergency as part of their duty of care.
- Staff are requested to have their mobile phone turned off or on "silent" during class time when they are engaged in teaching activities
- Staff may use their mobile phones for teaching photography or administrative tasks (eg: Compass role marking) as a technological tool to support the program.

Insurance

Mobile phones at school create a heightened risk of theft; therefore mobile phones brought to school are the sole responsibility of the owner.

Students are responsible for their mobile phone. Please note that Billanook 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 mobile phones that may be brought to school. Students are responsible for items brought to school.

Camps and excursions

In most circumstances, students will not be allowed to bring their mobile phones on overnight school camps or excursions. Billanook Primary School will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can be brought to special activities and events, including mobile phones.

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Student Wellbeing and Engagement

School Policy and Advisory Guide: [Students Using Mobile Phones](#)

REVIEW CYCLE AND EVALUATION

This policy was last updated on:

Date: Feb 2019

Evaluation and Review: Feb 2023

Ratified and Approved by School Council: Date

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