

MOBILE DEVICE POLICY

CREEKSIDE K-9 COLLEGE



Last Ratified by School Council	Review Date	Responsible for Review
July 2023	July 2026	School Council

Purpose

To explain to our school community the Department's and Creekside K-9 College's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones and other personal mobile devices such as smartwatches during school hours.

Scope

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Creekside K-9 College 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 device is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network. This includes smart watches with various features and functions that are typically found on a smartphone device, such as an Apple watch.

Policy

Creekside K-9 College understands that students may bring a personal mobile device to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school.

At Creekside K-9 College:

- Students who choose to bring mobile 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.

Mobile device use:

In accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy](#) issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile devices must not be used at Creekside K-9 College 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 devices owned by students at Creekside K-9 College 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 device to school unless there is a compelling reason to do so. Please note that Creekside K-9 College 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 Creekside K-9 College's Personal Property Policy AND/OR the Department's [Claims for Property Damage and Medical Expenses policy](#).

At Creekside K-9 College students are required to store their devices in their lockers or in their school bags.

Enforcement

Students who use their personal mobile devices inappropriately at Creekside K-9 College may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing [Response to Behaviour Expectations Appendix](#).

At Creekside K-9 College inappropriate use of mobile devices is any use during school hours, unless an exception has been granted, and particularly use of a mobile device:

- 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 — Student Use Policy](#).

The three categories of exceptions allowed under the Department's [Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy](#) are learning-related exceptions, health & wellbeing-related exceptions and exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite.

Health and wellbeing-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
Students with a health condition	Student Health Support Plan
Students who are Young Carers	A localised student record

Where an exception is granted, the student can only use the mobile device for the purpose for which it was

granted.

COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in school diaries
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

Related policies and resources

- [Response to Behaviour Expectations Appendix.](#)
- [Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy](#)
- [Weapons — Banning, Searching and Seizing Harmful Items](#)
- [Claims for Property Damage and Medical Expenses policy](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	July 2023
Consultation	School Council
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	July 2026