



Bibra Lake Primary School Mobile Device Policy



NON-SCHOOL PROVIDED MOBILE DEVICE POLICY

Introduction

Bibra Lake Primary School has established a mobile device policy in line with the Department's Student Mobile Phones in Public School Policy.

The [Student Mobile Phones in Public Schools policy](#) bans students from using mobile phones from the time they enter school grounds to the conclusion of the school day.

The new policy supports staff and students to:

- reduce the potential for learning distraction
- protect the privacy of staff and students
- improve health and wellbeing
- reduce the chance of students bringing external issues to school through technology.

Rationale

Bibra Lake Primary School accepts that parents give their children personal devices to protect them from everyday risks involving personal security and safety. Parents may also be concerned about children travelling alone on public transport or commuting long distances to school. It is acknowledged that providing a child with a personal device gives parents reassurance that they can contact their child if they need to speak to them urgently.

When used effectively as a tool to enhance learning, mobile devices can play an important role in education. The decision to ban the use of mobile devices in schools is intended to remove the potential learning distraction for students, protect the privacy of staff and students, improve social connections at school and improve the health and wellbeing of students.

For the purpose of this policy, 'mobile devices' refer to:

- mobile phones;
- portable hotspots or devices capable of 'hotspotting';
- wearable devices and MP3 players that have:
 - a SIM card that connects to the internet;
 - Wi-Fi/Bluetooth connectivity; and
 - The ability to capture or record sounds or images.

The Department of Education have stated that smart watches are allowed to be worn during school hours as long as students put their smart watches in 'airplane mode' so phone calls and messages cannot be sent or received during the school day.

While it is recognised that cyber-bullying mainly occurs outside school time, banning the use of mobile phones will allow students to engage with their learning and with their peers, without the pressure felt when needing to respond to a mobile device.

Policy

- Students from Kindergarten to Year 6 are not permitted to have mobile devices in their possession during the school day.

- Students are to put their smart watches in 'aeroplane mode' so phone calls and messages cannot be sent or received during the school day.
- A contract (Appendix A) must be signed by the parent acknowledging their child is bringing a mobile device, including smart watches onto school grounds.
- Students must bring all mobile devices, with the exception of smart watches, to the school office on arrival to school each day.
- These mobile devices are then stored in a secure location in the office. Students will be provided with a numbered mobile device card which is recorded each day on a sign in/sign out register. This card must be presented by the student at the end of the day in exchange for their mobile device.
- Contracts will be kept in the same location in the office as the stored mobile device. If a student brings in a device for storage and the school does not have a parent contract in place the school officer will contact the parent to advise a parent contract is being sent home for signing and must be returned within 2 school days.
- If a student continues after two school days to bring in a mobile device without a parent contract being in place the parent/carer will need to collect the device from the school.
- If a student fails to bring a mobile device to the office, the parent/carer will be contacted and a note sent home to advise of the breach of contract. Details of any disciplinary action incurred will be included in the content of the note.
- As stated in the contract a serious breach may result in disciplinary actions including suspension and police may be contacted.

Ratified by	Date
School Staff	23 February 2021
School Board	4 March 2021
Review Date	March 2022



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BIBRA LAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL NON -SCHOOL PROVIDED MOBILE DEVICE CONTRACT

Bibra Lake Primary School highly recommends students not bring mobile devices to school.

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- wearable devices and MP3 players that have:
 - o a SIM card that connects to the internet;
 - o Wi-Fi/Bluetooth connectivity; and
 - o The ability to capture or record sounds or images.

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There are a number of procedures in place for parents to contact the school and the school to contact parents in case of emergency and, therefore, mobile devices are not required to be held at school by students.

If parents wish for their child to have a mobile device at school, please discuss each dot point with your child and return the "Non-school provided mobile device contract" signed to the school office.

NON -SCHOOL PROVIDED MOBILE DEVICE CONTRACT

I give permission for my child _____ Class _____ to have a mobile device at school.

I understand that:

- The mobile device must remain switched off or in aeroplane mode between 8:30am and 3:00pm.
- The mobile device must be handed into the school office on immediate arrival at school.
- Smart watches may be worn, however they need to be in 'aeroplane mode' so phone calls and messages cannot be sent or received during the school day.
- With the exception of a smart watch, if my child has their mobile device in their school bag, in the classroom or on the playground inside these hours it will be confiscated and I will be contacted to collect the device.
- My child must take full responsibility for the mobile device. The Department of Education, Bibra Lake Primary School and Bibra Lake Primary School staff will not be responsible for its loss, theft or damage, including those stored at the office. Students who bring them to school do so at their own risk.
- My child must not use the mobile device for their own entertainment, playing games/music, taking photographs or videos within the school grounds or of another student.
- My child must not use the mobile device to threaten, bully, intimidate or otherwise harass other people. Such activity may incur disciplinary action including suspension and police may be contacted.

Parent/Carer name _____ Parent/Carer signature _____ Date _____

