



Onslow School

Student Mobile Devices in Schools Policy

Policy

The Department of Education does not permit student use of mobile devices in public schools unless for medical or teacher directed educational purpose. It is important to note that it is not a requirement at Onslow School for students to have a mobile device at school for educational purposes. Tablet devices are provided to students at school as learning tools. Onslow School recognises that an increasing number of parents/carers who for safety, security and/or emergency purposes wish to provide their children with mobile devices. This policy details the conditions under which mobile devices are permitted at Onslow School.

For the purposes of this policy, 'mobile devices' includes phones and associated listening accessories, such as, but not limited to, head-devices and ear buds. Smart watches are explained under "Exemptions".

Conditions of Use

Secondary students (year 7 to year 12)

Secondary students (year 7 to year 12) are permitted to have mobile devices in their possession during the school day from 8.00am – 2.15pm (which includes recess and lunch break). They must be **turned off and away all day** and placed into the student's bag or locker.

Primary students (kindergarten to year 6)

Mobile devices must be switched off and taken to the administration office before the school day begins and collected at the end of the school day. Students will need to sign in and out their mobile device at the administration office. Onslow School will securely store student mobile devices during the school day.

Exemptions and Communications

- Exemptions to this ban include where a student requires a mobile phone:
 - to monitor a health condition as part of a school approved documented health care plan; or
 - as part of a student's documented risk management plan; or
 - under the direct instruction of a teacher for educational purposes (Secondary only)
- Smart watches may be worn but must be in 'aeroplane mode' so phone calls and messages cannot be sent or received during the school day.
- Onslow School has duty of care for all students when they are attending the school with the following protocols for communication:

Secondary students (year 7 to year 12)

- In emergencies, where students need to get in contact with parents/carers, students are to notify the appropriate school staff. If parents/carers need to contact their children, they are asked to contact the school directly.

Primary students (Kindergarten to year 6)

- All communication between parents and students, during school hours, should occur via the school's administration.

Breaches of this Policy

Breaches of this policy will be managed in accordance with the School Behaviour Management Policy and Procedures.

Students who do not comply with this policy will have their mobile phone confiscated and held by the Administration Team: Principal, Deputy Principal (Primary) or Deputy Principal (Secondary). The student can collect the mobile phone at the end of the school day.

For repeated inappropriate mobile phone use by a student, their mobile phone will be confiscated and held at the office by the Administration Team. The parent/carer will be informed and requested to collect the mobile phone from the school at their earliest convenience.

In the case of serious breach of mobile phone use by a student, the principal may direct the withdrawing of the student's mobile phone from the school for a determined period or permanently. Further consequences may be administered in accordance with *Behaviour Management Policy and Procedures*.