

Mobile Phone and Electronic Devices Guidelines

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Intent

The Department of Education does not permit student use of mobile phones in public primary schools for any student from the time they arrive to the conclusion of the school day (“off and away all day”) unless the student has been granted an exemption for the following uses:

- to monitor a health condition as part of a school approved documented health care plan;
- for a particular educational purpose under the direct instruction of a teacher; or
- with permission of a teacher for a specified purpose.

For the purposes of the Department of Education policy, ‘mobile phones’ includes smart watches, other electronic communication devices, and associated listening accessories, such as, but not limited to, headphones and ear buds. “Off and away all day” includes before school and at break times.

Coolbinia Primary recognises that mobile phones and other personal electronic devices are important modern day communication tools and there may be valid reasons why a student may bring such a device to school.

Principles

Any student devices at Coolbinia Primary School are:

1. brought to school at the student’s own risk.
2. to be signed in at the office and must be switched off or on silent mode. A smart watch can be worn but must be put in ‘aeroplane mode’ so phone calls and messages cannot be sent or received during the school day.
3. not to be used to contact parents in an emergency as this is the duty of the school.
4. not to be used to harass, bully or intimidate students, staff other anyone else.

Any use of unauthorized electronic devices by a student during school hours that is in breach of these guidelines will lead to confiscation of the device and will be dealt with as per the school Behaviour Management Policy. Parents will be advised to collect the device from the office at the end of the day.

Parents wishing to contact their child during school hours can call 9427 8450 and a message will be given to your child. All calls to parents will be made from the school phones under the supervision of teachers, administration or office staff.

Further Information

Refer also to Department of Education Policy: <https://www.education.wa.edu.au/web/policies/-/student-mobile-phones-in-public-schools-policy>