



# MOBILE PHONE AND DEVICE POLICY

## OVERVIEW

In October 2019, the WA Government announced a ban on the use of mobile phones and personal electronic devices for all students from the time they arrive at school to the end of the school day. 'Mobile phones' include smart watches, other electronic communication devices, and associated listening accessories, such as, but not limited to, headphones and earbuds. The policy aims to reduce distractions in class and improve student engagement.

As per the Department of Education 'Student Mobile Phones in Public Schools Policy', Success Primary must impose a ban on the use of mobile phones for all students from the time they arrive to the conclusion of the school day, unless granted an exemption. Mobile phones **MUST BE TURNED OFF** and handed in to their teacher before school. They can be collected by the students at the end of the day.

Smart watches are to be disabled during the school day so that calls and messages cannot be made or received through parental controls. If this is not possible, the smart watch needs to be handed to the teacher at the start of the school day and collected by the student at the end of the day.

This includes messaging on student owned iPads. Students will be instructed to turn off messaging Apps when they arrive at school.

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.

While at school, students are the responsibility of school staff and DoE. *Any instances that require emergency contact with parents **MUST** be through the appropriate staff member or a member of administration who will make the appropriate call to parents/carers.*

Students misusing personal mobiles/devices at school will be brought to the attention of the principal and the parent(s) of the student will be informed. Parent(s) of the student may collect the phone/device from the principal. Misuse may lead to a loss of good standing. For more information, please read Behaviour Support and Good Standing Guidelines.

## EXEMPTIONS

If parents believe their child requires access to a mobile phone or personal electronic devices during the day, they will need to complete the form attached and submit to the Principal. Once permission is granted, the mobile phone or personal electronic device is only to be used for the purpose agreed to by the school and parents.

