

MOBILE PHONE AND DEVICE POLICY

Policy

The Department of Education does not permit student use of 'mobile phones' in public schools unless for approved medical or teacher directed educational purposes. 'Mobile phones' includes smart watches, other electronic communication devices (apart from school endorsed BYOD iPads), and associated listening accessories, such as, but not limited to, headphones and earbuds.

Please also refer to the 1:1 Device Policy 2022 and iPad usage agreement that outlines student, school and home responsibilities when using school supplied and student owned iPads.

Rationale

West Leeming Primary School recognises that many students and their families own mobile devices. We also acknowledge that some parents/carers request that their child/ren bring a mobile phone/device to school for before and after school safety/security reasons.

As per the Department of Educations 'Student Mobile Phones in Public Schools Policy' West Leeming Primary school 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.

Guidelines

Students

In general, students should not bring valuable items to school, as they can be easily lost or stolen, which is often distressful for a primary age child. Students from Kindergarten to year 6 are not permitted to have mobile phones in their possession during the school day. They are required to:

- Keep their phone in their school bag on silent on arrival at school and pick it up at the end of the day
- Turn their smart watches to 'aeroplane mode' so phone calls and messages cannot be sent or received during the school day

Parents

Parents are reminded that in cases of emergency the school office remains the appropriate point of contact to ensure your child is reached quickly and assisted in a suitable way.

Exemptions

The exemption which will allow the use of mobiles phones is for monitoring of children's health conditions. This will be approved by the Principal and included on the students medical documented plan.

Sanctions

For multiple offences of non-compliance with this policy, student phones may require collection by a parent/carer and/or loss of good standing.

Endorsed by School Council – June 2022

Review date: 2024