



Guthridge Primary School

STUDENT USE OF PERSONAL MOBILE DEVICES POLICY

POLICY SUMMARY

This policy outlines the requirements of the Minister for Education relating to students using mobile phones and smart digital devices during school hours.

Students who choose to bring mobile phones and smart digital devices to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours.

This policy is related to all mobile phones and smart digital devices with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network.

Where students bring a mobile phone or smart digital devices to school, the school must provide secure storage.

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Education Department's and Guthridge Primary School's policy requirements, and expectations regarding the safe and appropriate use of mobile phones and smart digital devices by students at school or during school activities.

POLICY

Guthridge Primary School understands that students may need to bring a mobile phone or smart digital device to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school or to extra-curricular activities.

- Before any device is brought to school permission must be granted by the Principal.
- During school hours, mobile phones and smart digital devices must be given to the classroom teacher to be locked away securely or stored securely at the Office. Smart watches must have communication and notification capabilities switched off during school hours including recess and lunchtimes.
- If emergencies occur, parents or carers should contact the school's office. Parents should not call or message children's phones or devices as such communication can impede Emergency procedures.
- Failure to follow this policy will result in the students' mobile phones and smart digital devices permissions to be revoked. In these circumstances, the mobile phone or smart digital device will usually be returned to the student, or their parent/carer, at the end of the school day. Parents and students should be aware that depending on some actions relating to personal devices, that further sanctions may be warranted.

Insurance

Students are responsible for their mobile phones and smart digital devices. Please note that Victorian Government Schools do not have accident insurance for accidental property damage. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items, including personal mobile devices if brought to school. Mobile phones and related devices owned by students are brought to schools at the owner's risk.

Camps and excursions

In most circumstances, students will not be allowed to bring their mobile phones and smart digital devices on overnight school camps or excursions. Smart watches must have communication and notification capabilities switched off. Guthridge Primary School will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can be brought to special activities and events.

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Student Mobile Phones and Smart Digital Devices Use Agreement

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was last updated October 2022 and is scheduled for review in alignment with our school policy review schedule.

Guthridge Primary School

Student Mobile Phones and Smart Digital Devices Use Agreement

Parents/Carers to complete:

My child _____ is seeking permission to bring (please circle) a mobile phone/tablet/iPad/smart watch to school for the following reason/s:

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.....
.....

I understand that a failure of my child to adhere to the conditions outlined in the policy may result in the device being confiscated until collected by parents/carers and no longer permitted at school.

I know I am not permitted to use my mobile phone or smart digital device at school.

I know that I cannot use the device to communicate, take photographs, to film, to harass another person or to allow another person to use my device while coming to school, while at school and while going home from school.

I know that I need to hand my phone into my teacher at the beginning of the day and turn off all notifications and communication capabilities on my device. I will collect my mobile phone or smart digital device at the end of the day.

I must abide by the requirements outlined in the STUDENT USE OF PERSONAL MOBILE DEVICES POLICY at all times.

Student's Name: _____

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

I have discussed with my child responsibilities with regard to the requirements outlined in the STUDENT USE OF PERSONAL MOBILE DEVICES POLICY.

I agree to the conditions of use as set out above and in the STUDENT USE OF PERSONAL MOBILE DEVICES POLICY.

I understand that the school bears no liability in the event of loss, theft or damage relating to my child's mobile phone or smart digital device at school.

I have read the STUDENT USE OF PERSONAL MOBILE DEVICES POLICY and agree to its terms.

Student's Name: _____

Parent/Carer's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Authority granted by Emily Streitberg (Principal)

Signed: _____

Date: _____