



Blyth Primary School Mobile Phone Policy 2023

Purpose.

This policy provides direction to students, staff and families about managing mobile phones and other digital devices that students choose to bring to Blyth Primary School. Digital devices include, but are not limited to, smartwatches, tablets or laptops that are not part of a separate Bring Your Own Device arrangements if needed. This policy applies while students are at school, or attending an authorised school activity such as an excursion, during school hours.

Mobile Phone Use for Primary School Students.

The Department for Education's position is that primary aged students **cannot use** their mobile phones and personal devices at school during school hours. The department and the school recognise that there are legitimate reasons for students to bring a mobile phone or personal device to school.

This may include:

- To ensure a student's safety while travelling to and from school.
- So that parents can contact their child outside of school hours.

During the school day students are not permitted to access or use their mobile phones or other personal devices. Students must switch off their devices before storing them at the beginning of the school day. They will not be able to access their device until the end of the school day.

Storage of personal devices.

Students will be required to bring their mobile phones or devices to the front office, where their devices will be locked away in a storage container. Students will be responsible for collecting their own devices at the end of the school day.

If the student does not comply.

If a student does not comply with the procedure of bringing personal devices for correct storage to the front office, or is involved in misuse of the device, Blyth Primary School Behaviour Consequences will be applied. In the event that the device is confiscated, the device will not be given back to the child and a parent/caregiver will need to collect the device.

Roles and responsibilities

Students-

- Comply with the requirements of the school's policy and follow all reasonable directions from the Principal and Blyth Primary School staff.
- Communicate respectfully with others and do not use a mobile phone, other personal device or school device to bully, harass or threaten another person.

Parents-

- Support the implementation of the school's policy, including the consequences for non-compliance with the policy.
- Use the school's formal communication channels in all instances to communicate with the school (including where a student requires early collection from school).
- Support your child to use their mobile phone (or other personal device) in a safe, responsible and respectful way.

School staff-

- Respond to instances of non-compliance in line with the school's policy.
- Report and respond to incidents of inappropriate use of personal devices in line with department policy and procedures and any legislative requirements.
- Make sure that any student personal devices handed in to the front office are stored in a secure location.
- Model appropriate use of mobile phones and support families to understand the importance of promoting safe, responsible and respectful use of mobile phones to their children.

Principal-

- Ensuring that there are processes in place for monitoring internet and school network use by all members of the school community.
- Report and respond to incidents of inappropriate use of personal devices in line with department policy and procedures and any legislative requirements.
- Model appropriate use of mobile phones and support families to understand the importance of promoting safe, responsible and respectful use of mobile phones to their children.

