

PERSONAL MOBILE DEVICES POLICY

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community Boisdale Consolidated School's policy requirements, and expectations regarding the safe and appropriate use of personal mobile devices by students, at school or during school activities.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Boisdale Consolidated School and,
2. All personal mobile devices that have not been approved by Boisdale Consolidated for the purpose of carrying out and engaging in the teaching and learning of the curriculum.

DEFINITIONS

Personal mobile devices are portable computing and communication devices such as smartphones, tablet computers but does not include smart watches.

POLICY

Boisdale Consolidated School understands that students may bring a personal mobile device to school, particularly for those who travel to school via the bus.

At Boisdale Consolidated School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored with the classroom teacher or stored in the office.
- Exceptions to this policy may be applied if certain conditions are met (see below for further information)
- When emergencies occur, parents or carers should reach their child by calling the school's office.

Personal mobile device use

[In accordance with the Department's Mobile Phones Policy](#) issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones/devices must not be used during school hours, including lunchtime and recess, unless an exception has been granted. Where a student has been granted an exception, the student must use their mobile phone for the purpose for which the exception was granted, and in a safe, ethical and responsible manner.

Personal mobile devices must not be used:

- during class or assemblies or in any way that disrupts the learning of others
- to send inappropriate, harassing or threatening messages or phone calls
- to engage in inappropriate social media use including cyber bullying
- to capture video or images of people, including students, teachers and members of the school community
- to capture video or images in the school toilets, changing rooms, swimming pools or any other areas within the school grounds.
- Students who use their personal mobile device inappropriately at school may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's *Student Wellbeing and Engagement, Digital Technologies (Internet, Social Media and Digital Devices and/or Bullying Prevention* policies.

In some circumstances, students' personal mobile devices may be confiscated and stored securely at the office or in the principal's office. In these circumstances, the mobile device will usually be returned to the student or their parent/carer at the end of the school day.



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Secure storage

Mobile devices owned by students at Boisdale Consolidated school are considered valuable items and are brought to school at the owner's (student's or parent/carer's) risk. Please note that Boisdale Consolidated School does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage or theft. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items.

Where students bring a mobile phone to school, Boisdale Consolidated school will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. Any personal devices that are brought to school will be securely stored with the classroom teacher or stored in the office.

Exceptions

Exceptions to the policy:

- may be applied during school hours if certain conditions are met, specifically,
 - Health and wellbeing-related exceptions; and
 - Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite.
- can be granted by the principal, or by the teacher for that class, in accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#).

The three categories of exceptions allowed under the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#) are:

1. Learning-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
For specific learning activities (class-based exception)	Unit of work, learning sequence
For students for whom a reasonable adjustment to a learning program is needed because of a disability or learning difficulty	Individual Learning Plan, Individual Education Plan

2. Health and wellbeing-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
Students with a health condition	Student Health Support Plan
Students who are Young Carers	A localised student record

3. Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite

Specific exception	Documentation
Travelling to and from excursions	Risk assessment planning documentation
Students on excursions and camps	Risk assessment planning documentation
When students are offsite (not on school grounds) and unsupervised with parental permission	Risk assessment planning documentation
Students with a dual enrolment or who need to undertake intercampus travel	Risk assessment planning documentation

Where an exception is granted, the student can only use the mobile phone for the purpose for which it was granted.



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Camps and excursions

In most circumstances, students will not be allowed to bring their personal mobile device on overnight school camps or excursions. Boisdale Consolidated School will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can be brought to special activities and events, including personal mobile device.

Exclusions

This policy does not apply to

- Out-of-school-hours events
- Travelling to and from school

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Mobile Phones – Department Policy](#)
- [Ban, Search and Seize Harmful Items](#)
- [Personal Goods – Department policy](#)
- For further information please refer our *Student Wellbeing and Engagement* policy and/or our *Digital Technologies (Internet, Social Media and Digital Devices)* policy.

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was last updated on the 16th of October 2019 and is scheduled for review in September 2023.