

Middle Indigo Primary School

School Mobile Phone Student Use Policy

PURPOSE: To explain to our school community the Middle Indigo Primary School policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones and other personal mobile devices such as smart watches during school hours and school activities.

SCOPE: This policy applies to all students at Middle Indigo Primary School.

DEFINITIONS: A mobile phone is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network. For the purpose of this policy, “mobile phone” refers to mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as smart watches.

POLICY

Middle Indigo Primary School understands that students may bring a personal mobile phone to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school or to extra-curricular activities.

At Middle Indigo Primary School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours
- Exceptions to this policy may be granted for specific conditions are met such as; health and wellbeing
- When emergencies occur, parents or carers should reach their child by calling Middle Indigo Primary School office.

Personal mobile phone use:

In accordance with the Department’s Mobile Phones Policy issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used at Middle Indigo Primary School during school hours, including lunchtime and recess, unless an exception has been granted.

At Middle Indigo Primary School, inappropriate use of mobile phones is any use during school hours, unless an exception has been granted, and particularly must not be used:

- 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 without their permission
- To capture video or images in the school toilets, changing rooms, swimming pools and gyms

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Middle Indigo Primary School may be issued with consequences consistent with our school’s Student Safety, Engagement and Well-being Policy and Anti-bullying Policy.

Secure storage

Where students bring a mobile phone to school, Middle Indigo Primary School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Middle Indigo Primary School students will hand their phone to their classroom teacher, who will store the mobile phones the office safe.

Insurance

Students are responsible for their mobile phones and mobile phones brought to school are at the owner's (student or parent/carer's) risk. Please note that Middle Indigo Primary School does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage or theft. Students and their parent/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items, including mobile phones that are brought to school.

Camps, excursions and extracurricular activities

Middle Indigo Primary School will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can or cannot be brought to camps, excursions, special activities and events, including personal mobile phones.

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- Student Safety, Engagement and Well-being Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy Acceptable Use Agreement

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was ratified on 22nd July 2021 and is scheduled for review in May 2024.