



# ARBOR GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Mobile Phone & Smart Device Policy

Last Approval: October 2024

### RATIONALE

The Department of Education does not permit student use of mobile phones in public schools unless for medical or teacher directed educational purpose. It is important to note that it is not a requirement at Arbor Grove Primary School for students to have a mobile phone at school.

Whilst we accept that an increasing number of parents/carers who for safety, security and/or emergency purposes wish to provide their children with mobile phones, **parents are reminded that when their child is at school, all communication must come through the office to ensure that the child receives the message in an appropriate and timely manner.**

The Policy supports staff and students to:

- ✚ reduce the potential for learning distraction.
- ✚ protect the privacy of staff and students.
- ✚ improve health and wellbeing.
- ✚ reduce the chance of students bringing external issues to school through technology.

### Policy

- ✚ In accordance with the Department of Education's *Student Mobile Phones in Public Schools* Policy the use of mobile phones for all students will be banned from the time they arrive at school to the conclusion of the school day. This includes before school and at break times. Students are not permitted to have mobile phones in their possession during the school day.

### Process

Therefore, the following procedure / process will apply

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|----------------------|---|
| <b>Before School</b> | Before entering the school, students <b>must turn their phones off</b> and <b>smart watches must be switched to flight mode</b> . The phones must be placed into the phone lockers provided by the school.              |
| <b>After School</b>  | At the end of the day students can collect their phones from the lockers and when they <b>have exited the school</b> grounds they may turn on their mobile phones and their smart watches can be taken off flight mode. |

Please note the school doesn't accept responsibility for any damaged, lost or stolen private items.

## **Exemptions and Communication**

- ✚ Exemptions to this ban include where a student requires a mobile phone:
  - to monitor a health condition as part of a school approved documented health care plan; or
  - under the direct instruction of a teacher for educational purposes; or with permission of a teacher for a specified purpose.
- ✚ Smart watches must be in flight mode so phone calls and messages cannot be sent or received during the school day.

## **Breaches of this Policy**

- ✚ Breaches of this Policy will be managed in accordance with the School Behaviour & Engagement Policy
- ✚ 4 breaches within a term will see the student lose Good Standing

## **Duration of Loss of Good Standing**

The loss of Good Standing is for the remainder of the term. The student commences the next term with Good Standing reinstated.

## **Consequences of Loss of Good Standing**

A student without Good Standing will;

- Not be allowed to represent the school at any interschool sporting event.
- Lose privileges and therefore will not be permitted to participate in activities such as school social events including school discos and excursions of a social or non-assessment nature.
- Other activities as determined at the time of the loss of Good Standing, such as ARBOR Day, Year 6 reward events, and extra-curricular activities.
- Not be considered for special awards and student leadership opportunities. Students who are current student leaders may lose their position, as determined by administration.

At the time of losing Good Standing it will be indicated in writing to the student and parent including the reasons for the loss of Good Standing and the period before Good Standing is reinstated.