Larrakeyah Primary School

Student mobile phones in government schools policy

# Policy

Student mobile phones are not permitted to be used in Northern Territory Government schools. Exemptions apply for teacher directed educational purposes or for medical reasons.

Larrakeyah Primary School respects the right of parents who wish to provide their child with a mobile phone. This policy details the conditions under which student mobile phones are permitted at Larrakeyah Primary School.

This policy applies to mobile phones, smart watches and all other devices that allow electronically based distractions. Smart watches will need to be switched to flight mode while students are in school.

# Conditions of use

Students are not permitted to have mobile phones in their possession during the school day. Smart watches must be placed on flight mode so phone calls and messages cannot be sent or received during the school day.

Mobile phones owned by students at Larrakeyah Primary School are considered valuable items and are brought to school at the student or parent’s risk.

Students are encouraged not to bring a mobile phone to school. Please note that Larrakeyah Primary School does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage or theft of personal items. Students and their parents are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for their personal items.

Mobile phones must be switched off and taken to the administration office before the school day begins and collected at the end of the school day.

# Exemptions

It is acknowledged that mobile devices can be powerful education tools when used responsibly. Some teachers and students use devices in ways that support educational outcomes, including accessing information and resources, taking photos or videos of learning activities, playing educational games, and collaborating with other students. For some students, mobile phones and apps are critical for monitoring their health condition.

As such, students may be granted an exemption to use their mobile phone and smart watch during the school day:

* to monitor a health condition as part of a school approved documented health care plan
* for a particular educational purpose under the direct instruction of a teacher
* with permission of a teacher for a specific purpose
* in the event of an emergency.

Where a student has been granted an exemption, the mobile phone can be used by the student, however its use will be monitored by school staff.

# Communication

Larrakeyah Primary School has duty of care for all students when they are attending the school. All communication between parents and students, during school hours, is to occur via the school office.

# Non-compliance of this policy

Students who use their mobile phones inappropriately at Larrakeyah Primary School may be issued with consequences consistent with our school’s Care and Conduct policy.

At Larrakeyah Primary School inappropriate use of mobile phones is any use during school hours unless an exception has been granted.

Breaches of this policy will be managed in accordance with the school’s Care and Conduct policy.

School Board Endorsed November 2022