

Mobile Phones

Purpose

To explain to our school community Sunshine Special Developmental School's (Sunshine SDS) policy requirements, and expectations regarding the safe and appropriate use of mobile phones by students, at school or during school activities.

Scope

This policy applies to all students at Sunshine SDS.

Policy

Sunshine SDS understands that students may bring a mobile phone to school, particularly if they are travelling to and from school using the school bus service or to extra-curricular activities.

During school hours, mobile phones must be:

- switched off; and
- locked securely in the student's locker or bag.

Students are permitted to access their mobile phones during eating time just before lunchtime and recess only, unless otherwise authorised by a supervising teacher e.g. where phones may be used for e-learning or other learning activities.

(a) Mobile Phone Use

Mobile phones must not be used:

- during class 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 without their permission; or
- to capture video or images in the school toilets, changing rooms, etc.

Students who use their mobile phone inappropriately at school may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's *Student Wellbeing and Engagement* and/or *Bullying* policies.

In some circumstances, students' mobile phones may be confiscated and stored securely at the leader's office

(b) Insurance

Students are responsible for their mobile phone. Please note that Sunshine SDS does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage. Students and their parents/guardians are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items, including mobile phones that may be brought to school. Students are responsible for items brought to school.

(c) Camps and Excursions

In most circumstances, students will not be allowed to bring their mobile phones on overnight school camps or excursions. Sunshine SDS will provide students and their parents/guardians with information about items that can be brought to special activities and events, including mobile phones.

Further information and resources

- *Student Engagement and Wellbeing policy*
- School Policy and Advisory Guide: [Students Using Mobile Phones](#)

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