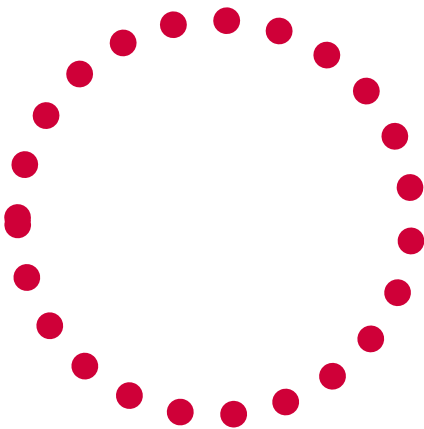
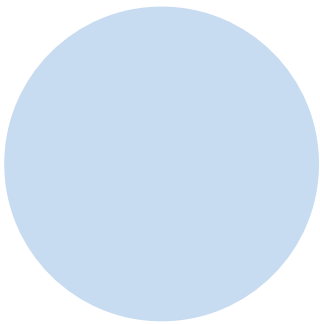


Tullimbar Public School

Digital Device and Mobile Phone Policy



Digital Device and Mobile Phone Policy

Audience – Executive, Administration Staff, Teachers, Parents/Carers, Community Members

Version 1 – 9 October 2023

Introduction

This policy outlines student use of personal digital devices and mobile phone technology in school related settings, specifically on school grounds, at school-related activities and outside of school, where there is a clear and close connection between Tullimbar Public School and its staff and student conduct.

We acknowledge that digital devices and mobile phone technology can aid communication, provide security and assist in an emergency for students, staff and parents/carers. However, digital devices and mobile phone technology can also capture digital images, video, text and voice, and email and be used inappropriately to bully, intimidate others, or gain access to and share inappropriate content. Therefore, it must be managed in an appropriate manner that safeguards all students, staff, and visitors and limits the problems that can potentially occur.

This policy supports the NSW Department of Education's [‘Student Use of Mobile Phones in Schools’ policy](#).

Definitions

For this policy, the term **digital device** refers to any 'electronic device that can receive, store, process and share digital information and connect to applications (apps), websites, and other online services. They include {but are not limited to} desktop computers, laptops, tablets, smartwatches, smartphones and other devices.

Principals may allow students to use mobile phones in specific circumstances, such as for an educational purpose, to achieve student health and wellbeing outcomes, or as part of reasonable adjustment to enable students with specific needs to participate in education on the same basis as other students.

Guidelines

Students

- Students are not permitted to **use** their own digital devices or mobile phones on Tullimbar Public School grounds and / or during school organised special events.

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- Where parents/carers have allowed their child to have a digital device or mobile phone on school grounds or during a school organised special event, the student is responsible for ensuring the device is switched off upon entry to the school grounds and stored in their school bag. As a result, students cannot access their digital device or mobile phone during any break, recess or lunch period while walking, exiting the school at the end of the day or waiting for the bus.
 - Bringing any digital device or mobile phone to school is deemed at the parent's/carer's/student's risk, and the school and/or its staff will not accept responsibility for loss, damage or theft.
 - Smartwatches are to have parental control features enabled so that access to calls, messages, camera, video and applications (apps) is disabled for the duration of the school day/event.
 - Any breach of the policy by students will result in the digital device or mobile phone being confiscated and kept in a secure location until it can be collected by a parent/carer. Parents/carers will be notified that the device has been confiscated promptly.

IMPLEMENTATION

- Students and their families will be notified of this policy in writing in the school newsletter, and a copy will be available on the website.
- After notification, students' breach of this policy will result in the digital device or mobile phone technology being confiscated and kept in a secure location until it can be collected by a parent/carer. Parents/carers will be notified.
- Tullimbar Public School or its staff do not accept responsibility for the loss, damage or theft of digital devices or mobile phone technology.

Review and Update

- This policy will be reviewed at the start of Term 4 of each year.