MOBILE PHONES – STUDENT USE



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the office.

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department's and Don Valley's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones [and other personal mobile devices] during school hours.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Don Valley PS
2. Students' personal mobile phones [and other personal mobile devices] brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.

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

Students are expected not to bring mobile phones to school.

- Exceptions to this policy may be applied if certain conditions are met (see below for further information). Any mobile phones or similar device if brought to school should be handed into the office immediately when the student arrives at school where it can be stored securely. The student will then need to collect the phone at the end of the day from the office. The device is not to be used until after the student leaves the premises.
- When emergencies occur, parents or carers should reach their child by calling the school's office.

Personal mobile phone use

In accordance with the Department's Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used at Don Valley PS during school hours, including lunchtime and recess.

Secure storage

Mobile phones owned by students at Don Valley PS are considered valuable items and are brought to school at the owner's (student's or parent/carer's) risk. Students are expected not to bring a mobile phone to school unless there is a compelling reason to do so. Please note that Don Valley PS does not

have accident insurance for accidental property damage or theft. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items.

Where students bring a mobile phone to school, Don Valley PS will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. All students are required to hand phones into the office.

Enforcement

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Don Valley PS may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing student engagement polices *e.g. Student Wellbeing and Engagement*.

At Don Valley PS inappropriate use of mobile phones is **banned during school hours**, and particularly use of a mobile phone:

- 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
- during exams and assessments

Exceptions

Exceptions to the policy:

- Mobile phones may be brought to school if parents require the student to have the phone for safety/communication reasons before or after school. In this case the phone needs to be handed in to the office and collected at the end of the day. If the student is attending Before/After School Care the phone needs to be handed to the service educator on duty.

Camps, excursions and extracurricular activities

Don Valley PS 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, other similar devices or cameras.

Exclusions

This policy does not apply to

- Travelling to and from school

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Included in school newsletter
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	27-2-25
Consultation	School Council 27-2-25
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	February 2028