

SETTLERS PRIMARY SCHOOL



POLICY: Mobile Phones, Pagers, Portable Radios, CD Players, MP3 Players and Similar Items

Students and parents are advised that anything which is illegal, dangerous or likely to cause disruption to the smooth running of the school and the education of other students is banned. The school's Behaviour Management Policy will be invoked where students bring items of this description to school.

The use of mobile phones, pagers, portable CD and MP3 players and similar electronic devices can be disruptive to the learning environment of students and use of these items at school is not permitted. Parents of students wishing to use these devices in special circumstances should negotiate arrangements with the class teacher or administration staff.

Parents and students are reminded that no liability will be accepted by Settlers Primary School in the event of the loss, theft or damage of any device.

Mobile Phones – Acceptable Use Policy

It is understood that for communications and safety reasons parents may wish their child to carry a mobile phone to school. Whilst at school, however students are able to contact parents/guardians through the school phone system and correspondingly, parents are able to leave messages for their children. As such it is the school's position that whilst at school, mobile phones should be switched off and not used by students.

The following policy relates to the use of mobile phones at school and during school excursions, camps and extra-curricular activities.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The increased ownership of mobile phones requires that school administrators, teachers, students and parents take steps to ensure that mobile phones are used responsibly. This Acceptable Use Policy is designed to ensure that potential issues can be clearly identified and addressed, ensuring the benefits that mobile phones provide (such as increased safety) can continue to be enjoyed by our students.

2 Responsibility

- 2.1 It is the responsibility of students who bring mobile phones onto school premises to adhere to the guidelines in this document. Where guidelines are breached the school's Behaviour Management Plan may be invoked.
- 2.2 The decision to provide a mobile phone to their children should be made by parents or guardians.
- 2.3 Parents should be aware if their child takes a mobile phone onto school premises.

3 Acceptable Uses

- 3.1 Once safely at school mobile phones should be switched off and not used. (For urgent contact the school office staff will assist where required.) Exceptions may be permitted in exceptional circumstances, should the student's parent/guardian specifically request this in writing. Such requests will be handled on a case by case basis and should be directed to the Principal or Associate Principal. Parents are reminded that in cases of emergency the school office remains a vital and appropriate point of contact and can ensure your child is reached quickly and assisted in an appropriate way.

4 Unacceptable Uses

- 4.1 Unless express permission is granted to the contrary, mobile phones should not be used to make or receive calls, send or receive SMS messages, surf the internet, take photos or videos or for any other application whilst on school premises.
- 4.2 Mobile phones should not disrupt classroom lessons by ringing or beeping.
- 4.3 Mobile phones must be stored out of sight. Phones must not be kept on desks or in plain view of students and staff.

5 Theft or Damage

- 5.1 Students are required to mark their mobile phones clearly with their names.
- 5.2 Students who bring a mobile phone onto school premises should store it securely. Where students are required to carry mobile phones to reduce the risk of theft they must keep them well concealed and not "advertise" they have them.
- 5.3 Mobile phones which are found in the school and whose owner cannot be located should be handed to the front office.
- 5.4 The school accepts no responsibility or liability in the event of damage, loss or theft to any mobile phone. ***Mobile phones are used and carried at their owner's risk.***
- 5.5 It is strongly advised that students use passwords/pin numbers to ensure that unauthorised phone calls cannot be made on their phones. Passwords/pin numbers should be kept confidential. The school accepts no liability for unauthorised use of a mobile phone carried on to the school premises.

6 Inappropriate Conduct

- 6.1 Where a student breaches any of the above conditions the mobile phone will be confiscated by a teacher and passed on to a Deputy Principal. The phone may be collected by the student at the end of the school day.
- 6.2 Where a student uses a mobile phone to engage in personal attacks, harass another person, post private information about another person, take or send photos, videos or objectionable images, make objectionable phone calls or bully other students or staff the school's Behaviour Management Policy will be invoked. Additionally, the offending student's parents will be contacted and the student may be prohibited from bringing a mobile phone to school.