

Bankstown Public School Student Mobile Phone, Smart & Electronic Devices in Schools Management Plan

Reviewed and updated: August 2026



Procedures

Bankstown Public School supports the restrictions of mobile phones, electronic and smart devices in accordance with the NSW Department of Education: [Students' Use of Mobile Phones in Schools policy](#). Mobile phone, electronic and smart device use in schools can impact student learning and wellbeing. Restricting mobile phone, electronic and smart device use at school aims to increase focus in classrooms, remove distractions and promote positive social interaction, while reducing the potential for online bullying.

Bankstown Public School has strong teaching and learning practices to support students in the classroom using various forms of appropriate technology, which maximises the benefits and minimises the risks of digital environments and prepare students for life beyond school. We foster a safe learning environment which supports and enhances each child's social and emotional health through our wellbeing and learning support teams.

Bankstown Public School has elected to use the following approach. All mobile phones, smart and electronic devices e.g. iPads, smart watches, audio and camera glasses, tablets, cameras and any other smart device or electronic device must be switched off before students enter school grounds and will be handed in and stored in the School Office for the full school day, including recess and lunch. They cannot be switched back on until they have left school grounds. Mobile phones, smart and electronic devices are not permitted to be taken to PSSA, excursions, camps and other school events on or offsite. For school events offsite where students do not attend school first, all mobile phones, smart and electronic devices must be switched off and handed in to a staff member for storage on arrival. This is an approved NSW Department of Education option and will limit unnecessary distractions and complement our ongoing approach to ensure every student maximises their learning and social growth in a safe and supportive environment.

If a student has not followed school procedures, their device will be placed in the office for safe keeping. Parents/carers will be contacted, and an adult will be required to pick up the phone from the office at their earliest convenience. If an adult is not available during or half an hour before and after the school day, alternative arrangements may be organised in consultation with school executive.

If a student repeatedly fails to hand a device to the office, a formal caution will be issued.

If a student continues to repeatedly fail to hand the device to the office or is found to be filming, photographing, calling, texting or accessing the internet or apps on site, a formal caution or suspension will be issued for misuse use of technology.

If a student has been issued a formal caution and continues to fail to comply with expectations, a suspension will be issued for misuse use of technology.

Bankstown Public School understands there may be students who have a medical, wellbeing or learning need which will require them to access a mobile phone, smart or electronic device as defined in this plan. The principal or Deputy Principal will meet with each student and their parents and carers to determine where an exemption will be applied for on behalf of a student, as well as the adjustments to any school-based practices and procedures.

Emergency Communication

Bankstown Public School understands there will always be emergencies when parents need to get in contact with students or vice versa during the school day. We try to keep this to a minimum, with the exception of emergencies, to avoid disturbing the students' learning. Parents and carers can make contact with the school through the school office on (02) 9796 2120 and students will also be able to contact parents or carers through the school office if urgent.

