

Students use of Mobile Phones in Schools Management Plan

Rationale and Objectives

Willmot Public School supports the restrictions of mobile phones in accordance with the NSW Department of Education: Students' Use of Mobile Phones in Schools policy (<https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/pd-2023-0480>). Mobile phone use in schools can impact student learning and wellbeing. Restricting mobile phone use at school aims to increase focus in classrooms, remove distractions and promote positive social interaction, while reducing the potential for online bullying.

Willmot 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.

Willmot PS Approach

Willmot Public School has elected to use the following approach. All mobile phones must be handed in and stored in the School Office for the full school day, including during recess and lunch. Students can then collect their phone at the end of the school day. 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.

Exemptions

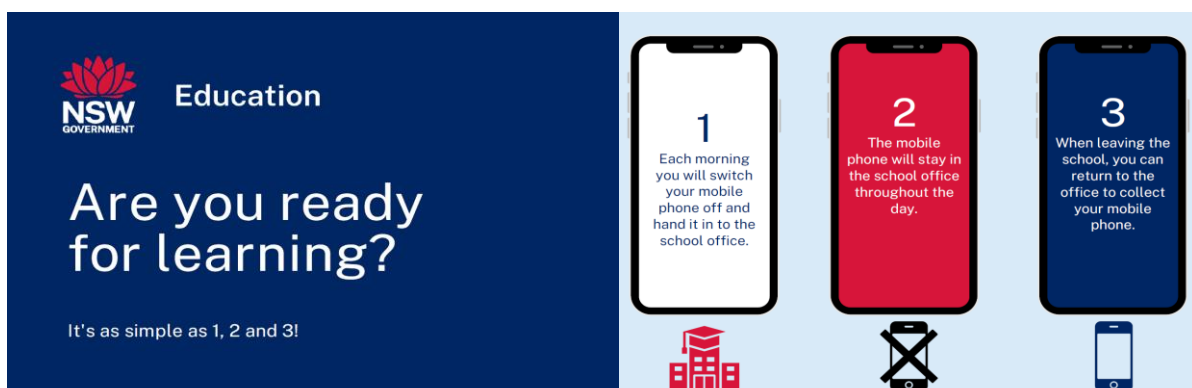
Willmot Public School understands there may be students who have a medical, wellbeing or learning need which will require them to access a mobile phone as defined in this plan. The principal and/or learning and support teacher will meet with parents and carers, as well as the student, in order to determine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

Contacting students

Willmot Public School understands there will always be emergencies where 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) 9628 0222 and students will also be able to contact parents or carers through the school office if urgent.

Questions

Should you have any questions regarding student use of mobile phones in schools please contact our school office on (02) 9628 0222.



NSW GOVERNMENT Education

Are you ready for learning?

It's as simple as 1, 2 and 3!

- 1**
Each morning you will switch your mobile phone off and hand it in to the school office.
- 2**
The mobile phone will stay in the school office throughout the day.
- 3**
When leaving the school, you can return to the office to collect your mobile phone.