



Mobile Phone Policy

THE KOORALBYN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Mobile Phone Policy

Purpose of the Policy

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The purpose of this policy is to clearly define the expectations and procedures regarding student use of mobile phones and smart devices (e.g., smartwatches) during school hours at The Kooralbyn International School (TKIS), with a focus on student wellbeing, learning engagement, and duty of care.

Scope

This policy applies to all students enrolled at TKIS who bring mobile phones or smart devices to school.

Responsibility

- **Interim Principal** – Overall implementation and enforcement of the policy
- **Teachers and Staff** – Daily enforcement and communication of expectations
- **Students and Parents** – Understanding and compliance with this policy

Point of Contact

Interim Principal – The Kooralbyn International School

Policy Statement

In alignment with updated national recommendations and the recent Queensland review into mobile phone use in schools, TKIS is committed to maintaining a learning environment free from digital distractions. While students may bring mobile phones and smart devices for safety and communication before and after school, these devices must remain out of use during the school day.

The policy supports:

- Student wellbeing and mental health
- Enhanced face-to-face social interactions
- Improved classroom engagement
- Reduction of bullying, cyber misuse, and academic dishonesty during school hours
- Protection of the school's duty of care obligations

Rationale

While the school recognises that mobile phones serve a safety and communication purpose outside of school hours, their use during the school day presents multiple challenges, including:

- Classroom disruptions
- Bypassing school procedures (e.g., students calling home when unwell rather than going through Student Services)
- Inability to monitor inappropriate communication
- Increased distraction and screen dependency
- Potential breaches of privacy through audio, video, or photography without consent

As part of our legal and ethical duty of care, TKIS is required to monitor student conduct during school hours. Unrestricted access to mobile phones and smart devices undermines this responsibility.

Procedures

1. Upon Arrival at School

- Students must **switch off** and **securely store** their mobile phones and smart devices immediately upon arrival at school.
- Students must **submit** their devices to the designated secure location in **Student Services (Administration Building)** or during **morning Form Class**.
- Devices will be stored securely and signed back out at the end of the school day.

2. During the School Day

- The use of mobile phones or smart devices during school hours is **strictly prohibited**, including:
 - Class time
 - Breaks (morning tea and lunch)
 - Assemblies, excursions, and school-sanctioned activities unless otherwise approved
- Wearable smart devices (e.g., Apple Watches) must be disabled during school hours or left with phones upon sign-in.

3. Collection After School

- Devices may be collected **after the final bell** from Student Services.
- Students must not use their devices until **off school grounds** unless granted permission for emergency purposes.

Exemptions

Exemptions to this policy may be granted for:

- Medical reasons (e.g., diabetes monitoring via phone or wearable device)
- Learning support needs (where a device is prescribed as an assistive technology)
- Specific school-approved educational use (at the discretion of the interim Principal)

All exemptions must be formally approved by the interim Principal and documented.

Consequences for Breach

If a student breaches this policy:

- The device will be **confiscated** and securely held until the end of the day.

- Repeated breaches may require a **parent/guardian to collect the device** and result in further disciplinary action as per the school's Behaviour Management Policy.
 - Serious breaches may lead to a formal review of the student's enrolment.
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Communication and Awareness

- This policy will be communicated to students during assemblies and form classes at the start of each term.
 - Parents will be informed via newsletters, enrolment information, and the school website.
 - Staff will receive training during staff meetings to ensure consistent enforcement.
 - Signage around the school will reinforce the "Away for the Day" message.
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Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or in response to significant changes in legislation, school context, or technology trends.

Date of Last Review: March 2025

Approved By: Interim Principal

Next Review Date: January 2026