

Mobile Device Policy

Blaxland East Public School



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Purpose and Rationale	3
Responsibilities- Students and Parents	3
Acceptable Uses of Mobile Phones at School.....	4
Cyber Bullying	4
Use of Camera and Video Functions.....	4
Theft or Damage.....	5
Consequences of unacceptable and/or inappropriate use	5

Mobile Device Policy

Blaxland East Public School

Year:	2025	Network:	Blue Mountains	Principal:	Mrs Belinda Wraight
--------------	------	-----------------	----------------	-------------------	---------------------

Purpose and Rationale

The school accepts that parents give their children mobile phones to protect them from everyday risks involving personal security, safety and health reasons.

The widespread ownership of mobile phones and other digital devices such as smart watches among students requires that school administrators, teachers, students, and parents take steps to ensure that such mobile devices are used responsibly at school. This Acceptable Use Policy is designed to ensure that potential issues involving mobile phones or devices 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.

Blaxland East Public School accepts that parents give their children mobile phones or devices for personal security, safety and health reasons. Parents may also be concerned about children travelling alone on public transport or commuting to and from school. It is acknowledged that providing a child with a mobile phone or device gives parents reassurance that they can contact their child if they need to speak to them urgently.

The Acceptable Use Policy for mobile phones and digital devices does not apply to students during school excursions, camps and extra-curricular activities. Mobile phones or devices are not permitted at these activities. When representing the school at sporting activities, the same responsibilities and consequences will be applied as at school.

Responsibilities- Students and Parents

Mobile phones and other devices are personal property and any student bringing one to school does so at their own risk.

Students and their parents or guardians should read and understand the Acceptable Use Policy before students are permitted to bring their mobile phones to school. It is the responsibility of students who bring mobile devices to school to abide by the guidelines outlined in Blaxland East Public School's Acceptable Use Policy.

The decision to provide a mobile phone to their child should be made by parents or guardians.

Parents should be aware if their child brings a mobile phone (or other mobile device) to school and will be required to complete the attached permission note.

Acceptable Uses of Mobile Devices at School

Using mobile devices responsibly at school:

Students who bring a mobile device (phones or smart watches) to school must turn it on silent or school mode before entering the school grounds and leave it at the Front Office. Devices will be stored in a pouch with the student's name and placed in a locked cupboard. Devices can be collected at the end of the school day and should only be switched on after leaving the school grounds. If contact is needed to be made with a parent, it should come from the school office. Parents are reminded that in cases of emergency, the school office (4739 1579) remains a vital and appropriate point of contact and can ensure your child is reached quickly and assisted in any appropriate way.

Cyber Bullying

Using mobile devices to bully (also known as cyberbullying) and threaten other students is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. In some cases, it can constitute criminal behaviour.

Students and parents are reminded that it is a criminal offence to use a mobile phone to menace, harass or offend another person and almost all calls, text messages and emails can be traced.

Students who are found to be engaging in such activities will fall under the Behaviour Support and Management Plan and be addressed accordingly.

Use of Camera and Video Functions

Mobile phones or other mobile devices must not be used to take photos/video of any other student or teacher. It is also prohibited to upload photos/video of other students/teachers to social media websites or email photos/videos to others if doing so would embarrass, humiliate or cause discomfort to the subject of the photo/video.

Theft or Damage

Blaxland East Public School accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile devices.

Blaxland East Public School accepts no responsibility for students who lose or have their mobile devices stolen while travelling to and from school.

To avoid disputes and assist in finding owners, younger students may want to mark their mobile device clearly with their names or an identifying sticker. All students are advised to have their name and another contact number stored on the phone so that it can be more easily returned if lost.

It is strongly advised that students use passwords/pin numbers to ensure that unauthorised phone calls cannot be made on their phones (e.g. by other students, or if stolen). Students must keep their password/pin numbers confidential.

Mobile devices that are found in the school and whose owner cannot be located should be handed to the school office. Parents are also encouraged to download the 'Find My Phone' app, or similar, to assist in tracking a student's phone.

If a mobile phone or digital device is lost or stolen, parents and students are advised to report the loss/theft to their mobile carrier so that they can de-activate the SIM card and block the mobile phone from use across all networks.

Consequences of Unacceptable and/or Inappropriate Use

Students who infringe the guidelines and rules set out in Blaxland East Public School's Acceptable Use Policy will have their mobile devices confiscated by teachers and the infringement will be dealt with under the School's Behaviour Support and Management Plan. The mobile device will be stored in a secure place within the school and returned at the end of the school day and the student's parent(s) will be informed. Any photos or videos taken at school by the student will be deleted under the supervision of an Assistant Principal and the Principal. Appropriate arrangements would then be made for the parents to collect the mobile device.

Repeated infringements may result in the withdrawal of the agreement to allow the student to bring the mobile telephone or digital device to school.

Students using mobile devices to bully other students will face disciplinary action as sanctioned by the Principal, in line with the School's Behaviour Support and Management Plan.

Failure to heed the rules set out in Blaxland East Public School's Acceptable Use Policy may result in an alleged incident being referred to the police for investigation. In such cases, the parent or guardian would be notified immediately.



77 Old Bathurst Road
East Blaxland NSW 2774
Phone 4739 1579
Fax 4739 8300

Relieving Principal: Mrs Belinda Wraight
blaxlande-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
www.blaxlande-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

Blaxland East Public School

Student Mobile Phone and Digital Devices Policy and Procedures

Dear Parents and Carers,

Blaxland East Public School acknowledges that mobile devices can play a useful role in learning and communication when used responsibly. To ensure the safe and appropriate use of devices, students who wish to bring mobile phones or other devices to school must adhere to our **Mobile Device Policy**.

Parents and carers are required to grant permission for their child to bring a mobile device to school and agree to the outlined conditions below. Students are also required to agree to the terms of use by signing the student agreement.

Conditions of Use

1. Mobile devices must be **switched off and stored securely** in the office during school hours, unless permission is granted by a teacher for specific learning purposes.
2. Devices may not be used to make calls, send messages, or access the internet during school hours, including break times, without staff supervision.
3. Students are responsible for their device's safety and security. The school will not be held liable for loss, theft, or damage.
4. The use of devices to record or photograph others without consent is strictly prohibited.
5. Inappropriate use of mobile devices will result in disciplinary action, including potential loss of privilege to bring the device to school.

Parent/Carer Permission

I, the undersigned, give permission for my child, _____, in class _____, to bring a mobile device to school.

I understand and agree to the conditions outlined above, and I will support the school in ensuring my child uses their device responsibly.

Parent/Carer Name: _____

Parent/Carer Signature: _____

Date: _____

Student Agreement

I, _____, in class _____, agree to follow the **Mobile Device Policy** and the conditions of use outlined above.

I understand that:

- I must keep my device switched off and stored securely during school hours unless otherwise instructed by a teacher.
- I am responsible for my device's safety and appropriate use.
- If I misuse my device, I may lose the privilege to bring it to school.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

If you have any questions regarding the school's Mobile Device Policy, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Kind regards,

Mrs Belinda Wraight
Relieving Principal

When Completed

The policy will be available on the:

School Website

School Drive

Mobile Device Policy

Date Completed:	
Completed by:	
Position(s):	
Next Review date:	
Next Review date with staff input:	
Principal Name:	
Principal Approval date:	