



STUDENT MOBILE DEVICE POLICY (Internet-Connected Inclusive)

1. Purpose

As a communication device, mobile devices, when used appropriately, offer students and their parents many advantages in terms of ease of communication and a sense of personal safety. However, mobile devices have the capacity to have a negative impact on the learning environment and the safety and wellbeing of students.

2. Scope

This policy establishes guidelines for the use of personal student mobile devices, within the School environment, and sets out the responsibility of staff, parents and students. This policy relates to mobile devices that have internet connectivity capability (mobile phones, smart watches etc.), that are owned by students/families and are onsite at Blue Gum Montessori School.

3. Policy Statement

Mobile devices have become an important and invaluable part of our modern lifestyle. The School understands that there are times when possession of a mobile device can provide a sense of safety and security while travelling to and from school.

All BGMS student mobile devices are unnecessary during school hours as a method of communicating with students. There are concerns about the misuse of mobile devices in a school environment e.g. bullying, interruptions in class, distraction and inappropriate use of images.

3.1 Aims:

The school aims to provide a happy, safe and stimulating learning environment for all students. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that personal mobile device usage does not disrupt this learning environment. This policy seeks to clarify the responsibilities of staff, students and families regarding mobile devices.

3.2 Implementation:

In general, students should not bring valuable items to school - as they can be easily lost or stolen. However, if a mobile device is required for safety reasons, or for travelling to and from school, the student will be required to hand the phone to their class teacher for safe keeping until the end of the school day.

Parents and students are advised that in bringing mobile devices to school, they are doing so at their own risk and must comply with this policy inclusive of the Mobile Device Code of Practice.

It has always been the school's practice to pass on important messages to students throughout the day. This can be done by phoning School Administration and requesting that a message be given to the child.



No mobile devices are to be taken on excursions or incursions unless otherwise stipulated as a pre-requisite by the supervising teacher.

All students found to be using mobile devices in an inappropriate manner e.g. bullying, inappropriate photography, usage during tests etc. will have the mobile device confiscated and returned to a parent.

4. Inappropriate Use

The use of mobile devices in schools should not automatically be of concern. It is only if a mobile device is used inappropriately that action will be necessary.

A mobile device is used inappropriately if it:

- Disrupts or is likely to disrupt the learning environment or interfere with the operation of the School, or
- Threatens or is likely to threaten the safety or wellbeing of any person, or
- Is in breach of any law

Inappropriate use of mobile devices includes students using them to communicate during the school day, to bully, intimidate or harass other people through any messaging, images, video or other data transfer system available on the device.

5. Guidelines for use

5.1 Once at school, student mobile devices will be stored by the classroom teacher or the School Administration. These devices will be turned off while students are in class, in the playground or at school related functions (excursions, incursions, events and camps). These devices will be stored prior to 8:30am and returned after 3:00pm during a normal school day.

5.2 Prior to reaching the classroom, students must not lend a personal mobile device to another person. Students are not permitted to use mobile devices once they are on the School site. The student who owns the mobile device will share responsibility for its use.

6. Responsibilities for Mobile Phones

Students bring mobile devices to school at their own risk - the School and school staff members will not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage to mobile devices or for investigating loss or damage.

7. Internet Connected/ Mobile Devices

The procedures applying to the inappropriate use and security of mobile devices, apply equally to the inappropriate use of the internet, portable computer games, iPads, laptops, smart devices and similar internet connected devices.

8. Reinforcement of Policy

8.1 Teachers will discuss this policy with students in their class.

8.2 When inappropriate use is detected, it will be dealt with in terms of this policy, and the School Behaviour Management process, thereby reinforcing the policy

8.3 The community will be made aware of the policy through communication, e.g. newsletter.



Mobile Device Code of Practice

I agree to abide by the following rules when I bring my mobile device to school:

1. When I bring my mobile device to school, I will turn it off as soon as I am on campus. I will hand it to the classroom teacher before the start of school each morning. The mobile device will be locked away securely, and will be collected at the end of the school day.
2. I will not have access to my device during school hours. Any communications that need to be made are to be made through the class teacher and/or School Administration. Every effort will be made to communicate in a timely manner.

Outside of normal school hours of 8:15am - 3:00pm and while I am on school property for other activities, I understand that the following rules apply:

- I do not use my mobile device, unless I ask permission and I am supervised by a Teacher
- I do not give out the personal details of another person
- I do not give out phone numbers without the permission of the person or people concerned
- I only send SMS/picture/video/voice messages or make phone calls that are appropriate
- I always have a person's permission when taking a photograph or making video or voice recordings
- I do not send any type of message or make phone calls that are unpleasant or that are meant to frighten or upset another person
- I report to a teacher or my parent/guardian any SMS/picture/video messages or phone calls that are unpleasant or make me feel uncomfortable in any way
- I understand that breaches of the Mobile Device Code of Practice may result in my being forbidden to access my mobile device at school.

Parents/Guardians and students are responsible for mobile device use when students are not within the School environment.

Students are responsible for their use of mobile devices at all times.

Student Mobile Device Usage Agreement

I, _____ agree to abide by the School's Mobile Device Code of Practice. I understand that if I breach any of these Codes of Practice, I may not be able to bring a Mobile Device to school, and/or my use of school devices may be restricted.

Student Name _____ Student Signature _____

Date _____

Parent Name _____ Parent Signature _____

Date _____

CC Registrar ☐

CC Classroom Teacher ☐



Approval and Amendment History	Details	Date
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