

Waitakere Primary Student Cell Phone Policy

At Waitākere Primary School, we recognise the potential value of cell phones for learning purposes, However, given the new mandate, students are prohibited from using cell phone during classes and breaktimes.

We understand that some parents like their children to have a device to communicate with them after school. Should students choose to bring their cell phones to school, they are required to power them off and store them in their school bags or hand them to their teacher.

It is important to note that students who opt to bring their cell phones to school do so at their own risk, as the school holds no responsibility for any loss, damage or theft of student cell phones. We anticipate that parents will be aware of this expectation.

We discuss the school rules about cell phones at the beginning of the year, and throughout the year as needed. Any changes to our school rules are communicated to students and our school community.

Parent/Caregiver and student responsibilities

Cell phones should not be used to communicate with parents/caregivers during schooltime. Students travelling on our school bus are not permitted to use a cell phone. School policy and procedures will be followed if this occurs.

If a parent/caregiver needs to contact their child urgently during the day, they should call the office.

Inappropriate use

If a student is observed using their cell phone during the day the cell phone will be held by the staff member. The staff member will return it to the student at the end of the day. If this becomes an ongoing issue it will be escalated to senior management

Inappropriate use of a cell phone may include:

- using the device when not permitted
- any sort of bullying, including [online bullying](#)
- taking photos or videos of other people without their permission
- forwarding inappropriate messages or content.

Inappropriate use of a personal digital device is managed through the school [Behaviour Management](#), [Responding to Digital Incidents](#), and [Surrender and Retention of Personal Digital Devices](#) policies and procedures, as appropriate.

While Smart Watches are not part of the mandate, any Smart Watch with cellular capacities, can be worn, but should not be used to communicate with others. We will follow the above processes as needed.

Related topics

[Digital Technology and Online Safety](#)

- [Bullying](#)
- [Personal Property and Insurance](#)