



Bankstown South Infants School Mobile Phone and Smart Watch Guidelines and in Schools Management Plan

Rationale and Objectives

Bankstown South Infants School supports the restrictions of mobile phones and smart watches in accordance with the NSW Department of Education: Students' [Use of Mobile Phones in Schools policy](#). Mobile phone and smart watch 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. **Bankstown South Infants 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.

Bankstown South Infants School has elected to use the following approach. All mobile phones and/or smart watches will be handed in and stored in the School Office for the full school day, including recess and lunch. 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

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

Contacting students

Bankstown South Infants School understands there will always be emergencies when 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 contact the school through the school office on 9790 676 and students will also be able to contact parents or carers through the school office if urgent.