



## Students use of Mobile Phones in Schools

### Management Plan

#### Rationale and Objectives

**Fairvale Public School** supports the restrictions of mobile phones in accordance with the NSW Department of Education: Students' Use of Mobile Phones in Schools policy. Mobile phone 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. **Fairvale Public 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.

**Fairvale Public School** has elected to use the following approach. All mobile phones 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.

It is important that all families, including any student who is bringing a mobile phone to school understands the following school guidelines:

- *Mobile phones can only be brought to school if parents/ students have returned the signed agreement.*
- *All mobile phones must be stored in the school office every morning, preferably before 9am, so that students can drop their phone off and proceed to class for learning.*
- *When dropping off mobile phones, ensure personal identification is visible on the device for easy pick up in the afternoon.*
- *Mobile phones can only be picked up from the office at 3pm.*

#### Exemptions

**Fairvale Public School** understands there may be students who have a medical, wellbeing or learning needs. If your child requires access to a mobile phone, the principal will meet with each student and their 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

**Fairvale Public 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 make contact with the school through the school office on 9724 3470 or via email: [fairvale-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:fairvale-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au) and students will also be able to contact parents or carers through the school office if urgent.