



The Catlins Area School

Te Kura Taumata O Catlins | To be the best you can be

Cell Phone Use Policy

We do not recommend that students bring cell phones to school. Cell phones are not necessary to have during the day. However, we understand that some parents like their children to have a phone to communicate with them after school.

If a student does bring a phone to school, the following guidelines apply:

- The school does not accept responsibility for lost, damaged, or stolen phones.
- Students must turn their phones off in class and keep them out of sight.
- If a staff member observes a student with a cell phone during class time, the student must hand it to the staff member immediately when asked. The phone will be kept in the office and can be collected by the student at the end of the day.
- If cell phones are used for a learning activity, this will be at the teacher's discretion and the phone's use will be supervised by a staff member.
- Cell phones may be used at break times although we advise against this.
- Students may take a cell phone on EOTC activities. These guidelines and other relevant school policies will apply.

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

Inappropriate cell phone use

If a student is observed using a phone inappropriately, it will be confiscated and a parent must pick up the phone from the office. Cell phones may be passed to Police for investigation if necessary. If possible, students should lock their phone before handing it to staff.

Inappropriate use of a cell phone may include:

- any sort of bullying, e.g. disrespectful messages about staff or other students
- taking photos or videos of other people without their permission
- forwarding inappropriate messages or content.