



Letter to Medical Practitioner about the Use of Mobile Phones at School

To the Medical Practitioner,

The Department of Education introduced the *Students' Use of Mobile Phones in Schools* policy applicable to all NSW schools. It applies to students whilst at school, including recess and lunch, as well school excursions and other school activities off school grounds.

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.

Parents/carers can still communicate with their child whilst they are at school by contacting the school, and vice-versa if necessary. The school will endeavour to accommodate individual needs of students where this not sufficient.

The Principal can allow students to use mobile phones in specific circumstances, for educational purpose, to achieve student health and wellbeing outcomes, or as part of reasonable adjustment to enable students with specific needs to participate in education on the same basis as other students. An exemption can be granted, with conditions if necessary.

We are committed to ensuring mobile phones are not used for futile reasons. If considering issuing a medical certificate, please detail:

1. The student's condition and how it impedes compliance with the policy, and
2. Provide circumstances or situations in which the student's mobile phone should be used, and
3. Timeframe the medical certificate is valid for (if applicable), and
4. Any other relevant information.

To ensure this information has been considered in your determination, please provide your professional details for verification below: