

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS
DIRECTORS
DISTRICT DIRECTORS
PRINCIPALS

CEO INSTRUCTION: MANAGEMENT OF STUDENT MOBILE PHONES

As you are aware, mobile phones are increasingly prevalent in schools and many students carry them throughout the day.

In response to requests for clarification of the Department's policy position regarding the use of mobile phones by students in public schools, I would like to make it clear that teachers are well within their rights to insist on mobile phones being turned off and not used in classrooms.

While parents provide mobile phones to their children for safety and other reasons, it is necessary to protect staff and students from disruption in classrooms and to maintain good order in our schools.

The following Instruction of the Chief Executive Officer is issued under section 233 of the *School Education Act 1999*.

The instruction relates to strategies that must be observed by principals in performing their function of maintaining good order on school premises.

The instruction comes into effect immediately.

In keeping with the *School Education Regulations 2000, regulation 70*, school principals are to make an order placing conditions on the use of mobile phones by all students at the school.

The order will state that all student mobile phones are to be switched off and not used in classrooms.

Principals, in accordance with the *School Education Regulations 2000, regulation 70*, are to make an announcement to: classes; a school assembly; or in a written circular or other school publication regarding the order, placing the above condition on the student use of mobile phones in the classroom.

In issuing this instruction, I acknowledge that the majority of schools have excellent strategies in place for the management of student mobile phones.

I thank you for your assistance in this matter.

SHARYN O'NEILL
DIRECTOR GENERAL

8 November 2007