



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2022-2023**

Mr James Milligan MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair),  
Dr Marisa Paterson MLA

**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE  
DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Asked by Mr Hanson on 25 August 2022: Ms Simmons took on notice the following question(s):

Ref: Uncorrected Proof Transcript 25 August 2022 PAGE 68

In relation to: Managing the use of mobile phones in schools

Mr Hanson: Is there a process whereby those sort of apps [such as snapchat and tiktok] can be stopped from use and other ones can be used?

Ms Simmons (in responding to the question): [I]n terms of specifics around what a mobile phone can access in a school, I would need to take that on notice in terms of any specific question.

Minister Yvette Berry: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

Any device connecting to the ACT public school Wi-Fi for an internet connection will activate the ACT Education Directorate's web filtering rules that block social media as defined in the web filtering "Social Networking" category. This includes TikTok and SnapChat for all students in Year 10 and below.

Devices provided by the ACT Education Directorate, such as Chromebooks, have the Directorates web filtering rules applied at all times, regardless of the type of internet connection.

There are formal policies in place across all ACT public schools to manage the use of mobile phones. The use of Personal Electronic Devices, including mobile phones, is governed by the *Acceptable Use of ICT - Parents and Students Policy* and the *Use of Personal Electronic Devices Policy*, which can be found on the Directorates website:

[https://www.education.act.gov.au/publications\\_and\\_policies](https://www.education.act.gov.au/publications_and_policies).

Consistent with the Directorate's policy, guidelines are established with students at the beginning of term in relation to appropriate personal mobile phone use during classroom time and any inappropriate use is also addressed in accordance with the current guidelines and policies.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023

Signature:

Date:

05/09/22

By the Minister for Education and Youth Affairs, Minister Yvette Berry MLA