Freeling P-6 School
TOYS FROM HOME POLICY

PURPOSE

Our goal is to create a safe, calm and inclusive learning environment.
Toys brought from home often lead to distraction, conflict, loss and upset. This policy ensures that all students can learn and play fairly without pressure or problems that personal toys create.

WHY TOYS ARE NOT PERMITTED

- **LEARNING FOCUS:** Toys distract students during lessons and transitions.
- **FAIRNESS**: Not all students have access to the same toys, which can lead to exclusion.
- **CONFLICT PREVENTION:** Trading, swapping, and disputes over ownership are common.
- **EMOTIONAL SAFETY:** Lost or damaged toys cause distress and impact the school day.
- **HEALTH & SAFETY:** Some items may contain hazardous materials eg. ***squishies are banned*** due to toxicity concerns.
- **STAFF FOLLOW-UP:** Staff time is taken up managing toy-related issues instead of learning.

APPROVED EXCEPTIONS

TOYS MAY BE BROUGHT TO SCHOOL ONLY WHEN:

- A learning or behaviour plan includes a sensory or regulation tool.
- A comfort item is approved by staff for emotional regulation.
- Teacher permission is given for a one-off activity/event eg. 'Show and Tell', Bookweek or other special event item.

STUDENTS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO BRING TOYS FROM HOME, UNLESS IT IS FOR A PRE-APPROVED PURPOSE.

This includes:

- Collectible toys (eg. Ooshies, Pokeman cards, figurines, 3D creations)
- Plush toys
- Fidget toys not prescribed for learning, sensory or emotional support
- Electronic toys or devices

ALL APPROVED ITEMS MUST BE CLEARLY LABELLED WITH THE STUDENT'S NAME.

SPECIAL EVENT DAYS

On days such as Teddy Bears Picnic, Book Week or class celebrations, teachers will communicate clearly when items from home are permitted and any conditions for bringing them.

IF A TOY ARRIVES AT SCHOOL WITHOUT PERMISSION:

- The toy will be placed safely in the front office or classroom until home time.
- Parents may be contacted if the item is valuable or fragile.
- Repeated issues will be followed up with a conversation with families.

HOW FAMILIES CAN HELP

- Please check bags each morning for toys or collectibles
- Remind your child that toys stay at home unless the teacher says otherwise.
- Support your child in understanding that this rule keeps everyone safe, calm and included.

EXCEPTIONS, QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS

Classes have a selection of fidget and sensory tools available for students who require them to support their diagnosed sensory needs.
If you would like to discuss an exception for your child or clarify any part of this policy, please contact the classroom teacher or front office.

Government of South Australia
Department for Education