



Wongan Hills District High School

MOBILE PHONE and ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

Revised/Ratified by School Council: Feb 2018

At Wongan Hills DHS we recognize that mobile phones and other electronic devices are increasingly becoming essential items of daily use in the lives of our students.

Due to reported incidents of inappropriate use of these devices during the school day and the increase of 'cyber' bullying occurring in school age children through text messages, social media apps or similar, Wongan Hills DHS has implemented the following policy:

Mobile Phones and electronic devices:

- May be brought to school by students who may need to maintain contact with parents before or after school due to commitments, health issues or travel safety.
- We request that any parent who needs to leave a message for a student during the school day contact the office rather than using the student's mobile.
- Phones are to be secured in student bags during the day. **The school accepts no responsibility for the safe keeping of these devices if brought to school**
- Students may hand their phone into the front office at the start of the day if concerned about leaving their phone in the bag and collect after the final siren
- Mobile Phones are to be either turned off or placed on silent during the school day whilst in bags.
- No phone is to be taken into a classroom unless with prior permission of the class teacher and then only in consultation with administration.
- Mobile phones are not to be used by students during the school day (including recess and lunch periods)
- Any phone used inappropriately by students during the school day will be removed from the student and secured in the administration office until the end of the school day.
- In the case of repeated incidents concerning the inappropriate use of a mobile phone the administration will confiscate the device and hold for safekeeping for a parent/caregiver to collect

Exemptions:

- Senior School students are permitted mobile phones in the SIDE room
- TAFE students are often required to carry and use a mobile phone as part of their course, including working around the school

Normal Behaviour Management strategies apply if the misuse of a phone or device impacts on the calm, caring and respectful running of the school and if a student refuses to follow direct instructions from a staff member.

Electronic Devices – iPods, MP3's, Game Boys, handheld games etc

- We discourage any student bringing any of these devices to school.
- If a student brings such a device to school, it must remain in the student's bag and not be used during the school day.
- Inappropriate use or display of these devices will lead to the staff removing the device and it being secured in the administration office until the end of the school day.
- Parents/caregivers will be contacted if repeated incidents occur and the device will be held at the administration until it is collected by a parent/caregiver.
- **WHDHS takes no responsibility for the safety of these devices if bought to school.**

CAMERAS AND VIDEO CAMERAS (Including Mobile Phones with Image Capture Capabilities)

Using cameras (including mobile phones with image capture capabilities) on the school campus, teaching and recreational areas, school functions, excursions etc.: Permission from the Principal must be sought;

- where photographs may be considered as harassment, intimidation or threatening.
- when use threatens or is likely to threaten the safety or well-being of any person.
- when use is likely to be in breach of any law. (Summary Offences Act 1988)

PSBP Appendix V