



Waikerie High School Mobile Phone Policy

RATIONALE:

Waikerie High School acknowledges that mobile phones serve a purpose in both personal and professional contexts. It is our view that mobile phones hinder the learning process and impact student's personal wellbeing.

Mobile phones can present a serious risk to student safety, wellbeing and learning. These risks are clearly defined under the Department for Education's Legislative Framework that includes Child Protection Curriculum, WHS, and Duty of Care responsibilities of education staff outlined in the Education Act.

POLICY AIMS:

- To continue to ensure that student learning outcomes and achievement are our primary focus.
- To safeguard and promote the wellbeing of all school members.

GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION:

- No student is permitted to use a mobile phone at any part of the school day whilst on school grounds.
- Inappropriate use of smart devices is prohibited.
- Using a mobile phone to create a personal hotspot that bypasses the school network is prohibited.
- Parents / Caregivers who need to contact their child during the school day are expected to do so by phoning the Front Office on 85412533. Likewise, students are expected to use the Front Office to contact their parents if a need arises.
- Staff are expected to refrain from using mobile phones in class and on yard duty. For security reasons, it is reasonable for staff to keep their phone on them for use in an emergency.
- The details of this policy implementation extend to all camps and excursions. Exceptions may be approved by Senior Leadership if, as part of the camp/excursion proposal and risk assessment, an appropriate case for usage is submitted by the lead teacher.

OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES:

- If a student requires the use of a mobile phone before or after school, and therefore possesses it at school, then it must be *turned off* and kept in their bag or locker during the school day, at their own risk.
- If the possession and use of a mobile phone is required for a specific issue such as part of their Healthcare Plan, then this request must be made by a parent or caregiver to the Principal in writing. The Principal reserves the right to reject such a request.
- Any inappropriate use of phones on the school bus will result in enactment of the SBM procedures as required.

CONSEQUENCES FOR POLICY BREACHES:

1. The mobile phone/smart devices are confiscated and is to be collected by parents from the Front Office.
 - Placed into a named sealed envelope and the school will notify the parent/caregiver to collect the envelope from the front office.
2. As per (1), and enactment of further SBM procedures in line with the school's SBM Policy.

VERSION CONTROL:

Version Number: 2019.01

Voted and passed by:

- Staff 31st October 2019
- Governing Council 21st October 2019