

Mobile Phone Policy



**Wellard
Village**

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Wellard Village Primary School Mobile Phone Policy



Purpose

This policy is to inform the Wellard Village parent/carer community of the management of mobile phones at our school. In this policy, the term 'mobile phones' refers to smart watches and other electronic communication devices and associated listening accessories. This policy also encompasses any tablets and iPads.

This policy has been developed in consultation with the WVPS School Board and in accordance with the Department of Education's "Student Mobile Phones in Public Schools Policy".

Student use of Mobile Phones

At all WA public schools, the Department of Education *does not* permit students to use mobile phones from the time they enter school grounds to the conclusion of the school day (off and away all day). As such, children are discouraged from bringing mobile phones and other devices to school.

The Department of Education does not permit student use of mobile phones in public schools unless for medical or teacher directed educational purpose. In this instance, the student or teacher will be granted a written exemption from the Principal for the following uses of mobile phones:

- to monitor a health condition as part of a school approved documented health care plan; or
- with permission of a teacher for a specified purpose.

As a school, we accept some parents/carers are concerned about safety to and from school and provide mobile phones for their children. If parents/carers do decide to provide a mobile phone for their children to use on the way to or from school, then the following expectations must be adhered to in accordance with our whole school Student Behaviour Education Policy:

- All phones/devices are to be switched off and placed in the student's bag before entering school grounds.
- When students arrive on school grounds, they are to ensure phones are handed in at the front office for safe storage and collected at the end of the day.
- Teaching staff and Allied Professionals will not be responsible for collecting or storing mobile phones and devices during the school day.
- The school has *no liability* should your child's mobile phone or device be lost, damaged or stolen; and
- All phones should have names printed clearly on them.

All communication between parents/carers and students during school hours, should occur via the school office. Students are permitted to wear smart watches, however these must be placed in 'aeroplane mode' so that phone calls and messages cannot be sent or received during the school day, this is inclusive of break times where students are not to check for any messages.

Students who do not follow these whole school expectations, will have their behaviour managed in accordance with the WVPS Student Behaviour Education Policy.

- In immediate response to a child who has their mobile phone or device switched on or visible at school, the student will hand over their device to a staff member and it will then be stored in the office to be collected by a parent/carer.
- Any further consequences will be aligned to the WVPS Student Behaviour Education Policy and the child's parent/carer will be contacted.

Staff use of Mobile Phones

Staff at Wellard Village Primary School are committed to excellence in Teaching and Learning. The use of mobile phones by all staff is restricted to DOTT times, break times, before and after school. At all other times in the school day, mobile phones are to be turned to silent, or turned off. As per students, staff are to put their smartwatches in aeroplane mode during instructional time.

*Exemption- in the event of an emergency, staff are permitted to take their mobile phones with them, or if staff are on oval duty.

Review Date: Term 1, 2024