

## **Purpose**

To explain to our school community Wattle Park Primary School's policy requirements, and expectations regarding the safe and appropriate use of mobile phones by students, at school or during school activities.

## **Definition**

A mobile phone is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network.

For the purpose of this policy, "mobile phone" refers to mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as smart watches and iPads/tablets.

# **Policy**

This policy applies to:

- all students at Wattle Park Primary School and,
- students' personal mobile phones brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.

## **Students**

Wattle Park Primary School understands that students may bring a mobile phone, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school or to extra-curricular activities.

The Principal or Assistant Principal will be informed in writing if a student is required to have a mobile phone at school.

No student will use their mobile phone during school time.

During school hours, mobile phones must be:

- switched off
- locked securely in the student's bag or given to their classroom teacher

Mobile phones must not be used to:

- send inappropriate, harassing or threatening messages or phone calls;
- engage in inappropriate social media use including cyber bullying;
- capture video or images of people, including students, teachers and members of the school community without their permission;
- capture video or images in the school toilets, changing rooms and gym.

Students who use their mobile phone inappropriately at school may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's policies regarding:

Student Wellbeing and Engagement Digital Learning

If deemed appropriate by a staff member, a students' mobile phone may be confiscated and stored securely.

#### **Insurance**

Mobile phones owned by students at Wattle Park Primary School are considered valuable items and are brought to school at the owner's (student's or parent/carer's) risk. Students are encouraged not to bring a mobile phone to school unless there is a compelling reason to do so. Students are responsible for their mobile phone. Please note that Wattle Park Primary School does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items, including mobile phones that may be brought to school. Students are responsible for items brought to school.

# **Camps and Excursions**

In most circumstances, students will not be allowed to bring their mobile phones on overnight school camps or excursions. Wattle Park Primary School will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can be brought to special activities and events, including mobile phones.

#### Staff

- Staff phones will be on silent mode when the staff member is teaching, during meetings and assemblies.
- Phone cameras are not to be used anywhere a normal camera would be considered inappropriate, such as in change rooms or toilets.
- The school does not take responsibility for loss or damage of mobile phones.

# **Parents**

- Parents working as classroom helpers must have their mobile phone turned off (or on silent) during class time.
- Parents will have mobile phones turned off (or on silent) during assembly and Family Teacher Meetings.
- Phone cameras are not to be used anywhere a normal camera would be considered inappropriate, such as in change rooms or toilets.

# **Further information and resources**

School Policy and Advisory Guide: Mobile Phones - Student Use

WPPS Photography, filming and recording students policy

# **Evaluation**

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's annual review cycle.

This policy was viewed by the School Council in 2022 and is due for review every 3-4 years.