



Gledswood Hills Public School

Mobile Phones Procedure (including smart watches and other electronic devices)

Rationale

The staff Gledswood Hills Public School recognise that many students and their families own a mobile phone. We also recognise that some parents/guardians request that their child/ren bring a mobile phone to school for before and after school safety/security reasons.

Our core business of teaching and learning needs to be conducted in an environment free from unnecessary distractions or disruptions. Therefore the school strongly discourages students bringing mobile phones to school. The school is prepared to allow mobile phones on the premises but only within the parameters of the policy as stated below.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure:

- mobile phone use does not disrupt the teaching and learning environment for any student or teacher;
- potential risks to student safety and well-being posed by inappropriate use of mobile phones can be identified and addressed;
- students, staff and parents have a clear understanding of school guidelines and personal responsibilities related to the appropriate use of mobile phones.

Policy Statement

Students who bring mobile phones or other electronic devices to school do so at their own risk and the school will not accept any responsibility for loss or damage.

Parents are reminded that in cases of emergency the school office remains the point of contact and can ensure your child is reached quickly and assisted in any appropriate way.

Students are required to switch off and hand in their mobile phone, electronic watch or other device to the classroom teacher upon entering the school grounds each morning. Devices will be stored in a lockable compartment in the classroom, until the conclusion of the day. It is the child's responsibility to collect their device from the classroom, after 2.45pm each day.

Unacceptable use of Mobile Phones

Using mobile phones in an inappropriate manner is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Inappropriate uses of mobile phones include but are not limited to:

- Using a mobile phone at a time that will disrupt the learning environment or interfere with the operation of the school;
- Making calls or sending messages with the intent to bully, harass or threaten another person;

Gledswood Hills Public School is committed to an environment where all members of our school community can flourish and actively work to respect and support one another.

- Using mobile phones to take photographs or video of other people without their consent;
- Using obscene, derogatory or socially unacceptable language while using a mobile phone;
- Using mobile phones to receive download and display inappropriate photographs or other material.

It should be noted that it is a criminal offence to use a mobile phone to menace, harass or offend another person. The school may consider it appropriate to involve the police.

Further information:

Principal, Lisa Whitfield

Gledswood Hills Public School

The Hermitage Way

Gledswood Hills NSW

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