



Smithfield West Public School

Wetherill Street, Wetherill Park, NSW 2164
Telephone: 9604 3161 9604 4501 Facsimile: 9725 5769

Mobile Phone Policy

Introduction

As a communication device mobile phones, when used appropriately, offer students and their parents before and after school ease of communication and a sense of personal safety. However, when used inappropriately, mobile phones have the capacity to have a negative impact on the learning environment and the safety and wellbeing of students.

This policy aims to establish guidelines for the use of student mobile phones within the school environment and sets out the responsibility of staff, parents and students.

What Is Inappropriate Use?

The use of mobile phones in schools should not automatically be of concern. It is only if a mobile phone is used inappropriately that action will be necessary.

Generally, a mobile phone will be used inappropriately if it:

- disrupts or is likely to disrupt the learning environment or interfere with the operation of the school, or
- threatens or is likely to threaten the safety or well being of any person, or
- is in breach of any law.

Inappropriate use of mobile phones will include students using them to bully, intimidate or otherwise harass other people through any SMS or text message, photographic, video or other data transfer system available on the phone. The school reserves the right to inspect a child's phone if there is reason to believe that the student has engaged in this type of misuse.

This type of misuse will be dealt with under the school's Student Welfare and Discipline Policy.

Guidelines For Use

1. Students will hand the mobile phone in to the school office for safe keeping upon arrival at school and collect it at the completion of the school day. If a parent needs to contact a student, this should be through the school office on 9604 3161.
2. Students must not lend a mobile phone to another student for use as a phone, for text messaging or for use as a camera or video recording device. The student who owns the mobile phone will be held responsible for its use.

Responsibility for Mobile Phones

Students bring mobile phones to school at their own risk – the school and school staff members will not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage to mobile phones or for investigating loss or damage.

Introduction and Reinforcement of Mobile Phone Policy

- Teachers will discuss this policy with their class.
- When inappropriate use is detected it will be dealt with in terms of the school discipline policy.
- The policy will be published on the school's website and presented at a P&C meeting.
- The policy will be communicated to students and their parents at the time of enrolment at Smithfield West Public School.



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Appropriate Use of Mobile Phones at School Agreement

Student's Name: _____ Class: _____

Smithfield West Public School accepts that some parents provide their children mobile phones for personal security and safety when travelling to and from school. However, there are clear guidelines and procedures for the appropriate use of mobile phones as outlined in the **Smithfield West Mobile Phone Policy**. In order for any student to bring a mobile phone to school they must have read and clearly understood the policy as well as co-signed the following agreement with their parent.

STUDENT AGREEMENT

The **Smithfield West Public School Mobile Phone Policy** has been explained to me and I agree to the following:

- When bringing my mobile phone to school I will personally hand it in to the school office by 8:55am and collect it at 3:00pm.
- I understand and will abide by all the guidelines for acceptable use of mobile phones at Smithfield West Public School.
- I understand the behaviours that constitute unacceptable use of mobile phones and will not engage in these behaviours at any time. I acknowledge that there will be consequences in line with the school's discipline if I break the terms of this agreement.

Student's Name (print): _____

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

PARENTAL AGREEMENT

I give permission for my child to carry a mobile phone to and from school. I have read the **Smithfield West Public School Mobile Phone Policy** about appropriate use of mobile phones and discussed the guidelines and procedures with my child. I agree to support school policy with regards to mobile phone use and agree to support school decisions and actions regarding mobile phones.

Parent's Name (print): _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____