



Woonona East Public School

Mobile Phone and Electronic Devices Policy (2010)

There is a range of technologies available today including mobile phones, pagers, digital cameras, portable CD and MP3 players/iPods, personal digital assistants and other similar devices. Many children will have access to these technologies outside of school and some, such as digital cameras, may be incorporated into teacher-supervised technology activities at school.

However when these technologies are misused by students and without the supervision of teachers during school time they can be very disruptive to teaching and learning and in some cases cause harm. There is the potential for bullying, access to, downloading and distribution of questionable or illegal graphic content, inappropriate use of the camera for shots or videos that violate others' privacy and the potential for loss, theft or damage of/to the device.

Woonona East Public School acknowledges that some students may need to be in possession of a mobile phone at school for reasons relating to their safety in travelling to and from school but there are very clear rules relating to this.

Student Responsibilities

1. Where there is a genuine reason for a student to bring a mobile phone for their safety in travelling to and from school, it must be accompanied by an initial letter from the child's parent and is to be handed in at the office on arrival and collected on departure from school.
2. The school will not be responsible for the loss, theft or damage of such devices which are not handed in at the office. Students who bring these devices to school do so at their own risk and are breaking the school rules.
3. Electronic devices including mobile phones may not be used by students on the site of Woonona East Public School as this can cause disruption to the learning environment or interfere with the operation of the school.
4. Taking photographs or videos on excursions may only occur if there is a sound reason for the photography. Depending on the particular circumstances and purpose of the photography, the permission of staff, parents/carers or students may be required.

Improper use of electronic devices including mobile phones

In the event that a student has an electronic device including a mobile phone in their bag or otherwise in their possession, they will be directed to the Principal/Assistant Principal and contact will be made with parents/carers to discuss the incident.

If students repeatedly ignore this Policy, the school's Student Welfare and Discipline Policy will apply.

Emergency Contact

- If a parent or carer needs to contact a student at school as a result of an emergency, they are required to call the school's main office and a message will be sent immediately to the student.
- If a student needs to make emergency contact with anyone they can do so through the school's main office.