Policy: Mobile Phone and Electronic Devices Policy

Status: reviewed 2013

Rationale:
It is important to promote and support learning and teaching in an environment free from unnecessary distraction or disruption. The use of mobile phones, phones with cameras, and electronic devices (such as i-Pods and MP3/4 Players) in class are considered disruptive to the learning environment of students when used without prior approval. These devices are and are not permitted at Chirnside Park Primary School without prior approval.

Aims:
☐ To ensure that mobile phones and other electronic devices do not distract students and teachers from learning and teaching.

Guidelines:
☐ Mobile phones and other devices mentioned above, are strongly discouraged to be brought to school at CPPS. Except where it is deemed by a family to be essential.
☐ DEECD does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it will not pay for any loss or damage to such property. Therefore students are actively discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.
☐ Our school-wide phone system administered through the office allows for prompt relay of information to students or parents as required.
☐ Where direct telephone contact between a student and their parent/guardian is required, the student can use the school’s telephone, depending on the circumstances and with staff approval.
☐ No responsibility whatsoever is accepted by the school for the safety, storage or security of any mobile telephone, or similar electronic device, brought to school.
☐ This policy shall apply to all students equally during school excursions, interschool sport, camps, excursions and extra-curricular activities. Supervising staff carry mobile telephones as a means of communication.

Implementation:
Students:
☐ Phones and electronic devices brought to school must be handed in to the office at the start of the school day. They must not be kept in bags or tubs. Students can collect them at the end of the day.
☐ Mobile phones or other electronic devices detected in the possession of students will be stored in the school’s security store for safe keeping. Parents will be required to collect the device. Parents will be telephoned advising of the school’s policy.

Staff:
Mobile Phones are not to be used by staff during class or meeting times. Staff may use phones for educational reasons. Mobile phones can be used for school related communications on excursions.

Community:
All users are asked to switch their phones to silent when in public areas, including meetings, interviews and classrooms. All visitors and parents are asked to take and make mobile calls outside learning and teaching areas.

Evaluation:
The Mobile Phone Policy will be reviewed annually with a major review undertaken every 3 years by the Education Sub-Committee of School Council or as required.

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Date Reviewed: October 2013
Date School Council Approved: