

# MOBILE PHONE, SMART WATCH AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES POLICY



The use of mobile phones, smart watches, and other electronic devices is restricted under the terms of this policy.

## **RATIONALE**

Yanchep Rise Primary School acknowledges that:

- Mobile phones, smart watches, and other electronic devices have become an important and valuable part of modern life.
- Possession of these devices can provide a sense of safety and security for all members of the school community, particularly for students and their families while travelling to and from school.
- These devices can provide an effective means of communication between staff, parents, and other members of the school community.
- The primary role of all staff at YRPS is to ensure the best possible teaching and learning outcomes for all students.

## **PURPOSE**

This policy clarifies the responsibilities of staff, students, and parents regarding the use of personal electronic devices—including mobile phones and smart watches—at Yanchep Rise Primary School. It ensures that the use of these devices does not disrupt the learning environment or compromise student wellbeing and safety.

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

### **Alignment with Department of Education Policy**

The Department of Education's Student Mobile Phones in Public Schools policy bans students from using mobile devices from the time they enter school grounds until the conclusion of the school day. This includes smart watches and listening accessories such as headphones and earbuds.

As such, children bringing mobile phones and other devices to school is discouraged. However, if parents choose to provide a device for their child's safety when travelling to and from school, the following conditions apply:

- All mobile devices, including phones and watches, are to be turned off and placed in the student's bag or pocket before entering the school grounds.
- All mobile devices, including phones and watches, must be given to the classroom teacher for storage in their drawer.
- The school holds no liability should a child's mobile phone or other device be lost, damaged, or stolen.
- If a child's mobile device is switched on or visible during school hours, it will be confiscated and consequences aligned with the YRPS Behaviour Education Guidelines and Procedures will apply. Parents will be contacted and required to collect the device from Administration.

## Students

- Students who need to maintain contact with parents/caregivers due to out-of-school commitments, health issues, travel, or safety may bring mobile phones or smart watches to school under the conditions outlined above.
- All mobile phones and smart watches must remain turned off and stored in the teacher's cupboard during school hours. They may be switched on once students have left the school grounds.
- Photos, videos, or audio recordings must not be taken on mobile phones, smart watches, or other electronic devices while on the school site.
- Any form of communication—including texting, voice calls, or accessing social media—is strictly prohibited on school grounds.
- No mobile phones, smart watches, or electronic devices will be permitted during excursions or camps unless authorised by the Principal. Contact must be made through the school or the teacher in charge.
- Any device used inappropriately will be removed and secured in Administration, and parents will be contacted to collect it. A behavioural consequence will apply in accordance with the YRPS Behaviour Education Guidelines and Procedures.



## Staff

- Staff should take mobile phones on duty for emergency purposes only.
- All mobile phones and electronic devices are to be switched off or placed on silent mode during staff, administration, and parent meetings, as well as during class teaching time.
- Mobile phones must not be answered, and text messages must not be sent during class instruction.
- In emergencies, contact should be made through Administration. If a family emergency requires phone access, arrangements may be made with a member of Administration.
- Staff should check phones during non-instructional or break times only.
- Staff mobile phones and devices may be used for emergency contact while on duty or on excursions away from the school site.
- Personal use of electronic devices during instructional time is not permitted.

## Parents

To ensure there is no disruption to the teaching and learning program:

- Parents and visitors are asked to turn mobile phones, smart watches, and electronic devices off or place them on silent mode when volunteering in classrooms.
- While attending assemblies, meetings, or school-based events, all personal devices should be turned off or set to silent mode.