



# MOBILE PHONE DEVICE POLICY

## PURPOSE:

This policy provides direction to students, staff and families about managing personal mobile phones and other digital devices that students choose to bring to school. Digital devices include, but are not limited to, smartwatches, tablets or laptops that are not part of a separate Bring Your Own Device arrangement. This policy applies while students are at school, or attending an authorised school activity such as an excursion, during school hours.

## RATIONALE:

Eudunda Area School acknowledges that mobile phones serve a purpose in both personal and professional contexts, and have a place in the lives of everyone in our community. It is our view that mobile phones must be handled in a mature and responsible fashion and in such a way that does not hinder the education process or personal wellbeing.

The responsible use of a mobile phone extends beyond the school environment and is applicable at all times within the general community. At the same time, they can present a serious risk to student safety, wellbeing and learning. These risks are clearly defined under the Department for Education's Legislative Framework that includes Child Protection Curriculum, WHS, and Duty of Care responsibilities of education staff outlined in the Education Act.

## POLICY AIMS:

- To continue to ensure that student learning outcomes and achievement are our primary focus.
- To safeguard and promote the wellbeing of all school members.

## GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION:

- If a student requires the use of a mobile phone before or after school, and therefore possesses it at school, then it must be *turned off* or *silenced* and kept in their bag or locker during the school day.
- No student is permitted to use a mobile phone device at any part of the school day whilst on school grounds
- Using a mobile phone to create a personal hotspot that bypasses the school network is prohibited.
- Parents / Caregivers who need to contact their child during the school day are expected to do so by phoning the front office (8581 1500). Likewise, students are expected to use the front office to contact their parents if a need arises.
- Staff are expected to refrain from using mobile phones in class and on yard duty. Usage is to be limited to office spaces. For security reasons, it is reasonable for staff to keep their phone on them for use in an emergency.
- The details of this policy implementation extend to all camps and excursions. Exceptions may be approved by Leadership if, as part of the camp/excursion proposal and risk assessment, an appropriate case for usage is submitted by the lead teacher.



# MOBILE PHONE DEVICE POLICY

## OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES:

- If the possession and use of a mobile phone is required for a specific issue or matter of urgency by any student, or as part of the student's OnePlan or Healthcare Plan, then this request must be made by a parent or caregiver to the Principal in writing. The Principal reserves the right to reject such a request. The student will be clearly identified in Daymap.
- Any usage in class will be limited to Senior Secondary (Yr. 11 & 12) students. Such usage will be recorded in the approved Learning and Assessment Plan for that class and submitted at the beginning of the course (ad hoc approval will not be granted, nor will any request deemed non-educational).
- Any inappropriate use of phones on the school bus will result in enactment of the SBM procedures as required.

## CONSEQUENCES FOR POLICY BREACHES:

1. The mobile phone is confiscated and a SMS/phone call to inform the parent/guardian. The mobile phone is placed in a clearly named envelope and locked securely in the filing cabinet in the Principal's office until collected.
2. The parent/guardian will be given the option of collecting the mobile phone from the Principal or have the Principal return the mobile phone to the student at the end of that day, or after a period of time determined by the parent
3. For Year 12 Students, consequences will also involve the loss of future Yr. 12 room privileges.
4. As per (1), and enactment of further SBM procedures in line with the school's SBM Policy, for repeated infringements.

*This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle. Ratified 25th July 2022*