



# USE OF MOBILE PHONES AND DEVICES

## **Rationale**

Mobile phones can have a range of uses in a school setting; a time piece, calculator, access to internet and as a learning tool.

At Cooper Pedy Area School, staff acknowledge the key role that technologies play in education and modern teaching and learning practices.

## **Guidelines**

Students are permitted to use mobile phones/devices under the following conditions:

- Before school, during break times and after school.
- The teacher has given explicit instructions on the use of devices.
- Permission to use a device is requested and given by the teacher.
- A “use your electronic device” sign/symbol is displayed at the front of the classroom during the time that students can use their phones and removed when devices are not to be used.
- If permission is granted, the device must be used for personal learning and not in any way that could distract others.
- Use of the device is related to the task at hand and not for social media, inappropriate communication between students or online games.
- The school does not accept responsibility for mobile phones or devices that go missing and cannot investigate misplaced, stolen or broken devices.

When mobile devices are not to be used throughout the school day, they remain the responsibility of the student and must be switched off or on silent mode and kept out of sight in a school bag or secure location. The use of mobile phones or other devices is not permitted in toilets or change rooms.

Inappropriate use of phones or mobile devices could lead to student’s permission to use their phone being withdrawn.

Mobile phones are not to be used to make contact between parents and their children during school time. It is absolutely essential that teachers and school leaders are aware of any issues or changes in a student’s routine/timetable to ensure that staff meet their legal duty of care obligations. Parent/Carer contact must be made through the school, via the front office.

If students do not comply with these guidelines, consequences may include:

- Requests from the teacher for the student to turn off the device and place it in their bag, secured and out of sight
- Confiscation of mobile devices by a teacher for the remainder of the lesson. The teacher will ensure that the device is placed in a secure area in the classroom, record the matter on Daymap and return the device to the student at the end of the lesson
- Repeated breaches of the guidelines will lead to parent/carers contact and possible follow up meetings with the home group teacher, students and parents/carers
- If a student continues to refuse to comply with a request from the teacher to hand in their device, a school leader will collect the student from class and parents will be contacted.
- Students may lose the right to bring their own device to school

**Policy endorsed by the Cooper Pedy Area School Governing Council on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2019**

*Reviewed by Leadership 2020*

