



Wellington High School

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Policy for Mobile Phones and Smart Devices.

Updated 3/12/2019

Purpose

Wellington High School recognises the widespread ownership of mobile phones and smart devices among students. This requires the parents, students and school staff to take steps to ensure the these phones and smart devices are used responsibly on excursions, camps and extra- curricular activities.

This policy is designed to ensure the potential issues involving mobile phones and smart devices can be clearly identified and addressed.

This policy will be reviewed and updated yearly.

Rationale

Wellington High School accepts that parents give their children mobile phones and smart devices to protect them from everyday risks involving personal security and safety.

It is acknowledged that providing a student with mobile phones and smart devices gives parents reassurance that they can contact their child if needed to speak to them on the way to school before 8.55am and after school 3.08pm.

Parents are reminded that in cases of emergency during the school day, the school office remains the point of contact and staff will ensure students are contacted quickly and assisted in an appropriate way.

For all enquiries and student messages please contact Wellington High School on 6845 2344.

Responsibility

It is the responsibility of students who bring mobile phones to school to abide by the guidelines outlined in this document.

Wellington High School accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones/smart devices or any health effects (potential or actual) resulting from use of mobile phones and smart devices.

Wellington High School strongly advises the use of passwords and pin numbers to protect mobile phones and smart devices from unauthorised use.

Students and parents should recognise that mobile phones and smart devices can be highly sort after for theft and they should always be stored in a safe and secure place in their bag.

Acceptable usage

Mobile phones and smart devices may be used before school 8.55am and after school 3.08pm (in accordance to details set out in unacceptable usage).

Unacceptable usage

Parents and students are asked to respect the learning environment.

Mobile phones and smart devices must be switched off and placed in student's bag between 8.55am and 3.08pm.

They must not be used in a manner or place that is **disruptive to the normal routines of the school or to other people**. This includes

- Sending of text, data, footage or photos without permission of any member, or visitor to the school while on school grounds.
- As with all forms of bullying or harassment, using mobile phones to communicate with other students for this purpose is not acceptable at Wellington High School.
- It is a criminal offence to use a mobile phone to menace, offend another person or document illegal activities.
- If there is an outside mobile phone bullying issue that comes into school it will be dealt with in accordance with the discipline procedures at Wellington High School and may result in further action being taken. (Suspension)

Consequences of unacceptable usage.

Students who do not meet the expectations in this policy will be subject to consequences consistent with the school discipline policy.

If the student is **using** a mobile phone or smart device, they will be asked to take it the office. The mobile phone or smart device will be placed in the office and returned at the end of the day on the first offence.

On subsequent occasions, parents will be contacted to collect the phone or smart device. If this continues parents will be contacted and refusal to comply with the Wellington High School Mobile Phone and Smart Device Policy may result in suspension.