



MOBILE PHONE AND OTHER DEVICES POLICY

Other devices include: portable games, recording devices, listening devices and cameras

In compiling this policy, the school has considered whether these devices are required at school, their potential for inappropriate use, and the risk of theft of the device.

We understand that students sometimes use these devices to contact their parents during the school day, and remind students and parents that this contact must be limited to break times to ensure that learning time is not disrupted.

In emergency situations, parents should contact the school office who will remove the student from class. Likewise, students who need to contact home urgently can access a telephone at the school office.

GUIDELINES FOR BRINGING MOBILE PHONES AND OTHER DEVICES TO SCHOOL

1. It is recommended that students who bring a mobile phone or other device to school hand it in at the school office where it will be stored securely and can be collected at the end of the school day. The school does not accept responsibility for the loss, theft or damage of devices that have not been handed to the office for safe keeping.
2. Students who do not hand their devices in at the office must ensure that they are not used inappropriately. To minimise disruption to the learning environment, they must be turned off and not seen or used during any school activities.
3. Devices can be required to be handed in to the supervisor during any examination/assessment task. In these cases, they will be sent to the school office and students will be able to collect them at the completion of the task.

WHAT IS CONSIDERED AS INAPPROPRIATE USE OF MOBILE PHONES AND OTHER DEVICES?

A mobile phone or other device is used inappropriately if it is used in a way that:

- interferes with the learning environment or the efficient operation of the school;
- violates the privacy of a member of the school community;
- threatens, or is likely to threaten, the safety or wellbeing of any person; or
- is in breach of any law.

Examples of inappropriate usage are:

- using your device during class/school activities without a teachers permission
- taking photographs/video, or making voice recordings of other people without their permission
- bullying, intimidation or harassment through any SMS, photographic, video or other data transfer system on the phone
- "sexting" (in this case, forwarding or possessing inappropriate pictures of a child under 16 years old)

CONSEQUENCES OF THE INAPPROPRIATE USE OF MOBILE PHONES OR OTHER DEVICES

1st Offence	The device is confiscated by the teacher and sent to the front office for safekeeping. The student is issued with a receipt to allow them to collect the device at the conclusion of the school day.
2nd Offence	The device is confiscated by the teacher and sent to the front office for safekeeping. The Parent/Carer must contact the Principal to organise collection. The student is issued with Formal Warning of Suspension.
Further Offences	Disciplinary action may be invoked as outlined in the School's Welfare and Discipline Policy. This may include placement on the Student Support Scheme or Suspension for Continued Disobedience.
Breaches of the Law	The school must notify the Police of any breaches of the law including when a device is used to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• bully, harass or threaten another person;• take inappropriate photographs, videos or voice recordings on school premises; or• produce, forward or possess pictures of a child under 16 years old in a sexual context

This policy seeks to ensure that the learning environment at Willyama High School is one that recognises the right of students to learn and teachers to teach without interference or distractions from mobile phones.

The above policy is based on advice from the Department of Communities Legal Branch.