



MENZIES COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Pukulpa Nintirrinkula
Happy Learning

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Mobile Phone Policy

Policy Statement

- We understand that mobile phones are very much a part of our technological world today.
- We recognise that the vast majority of our students will have mobile phones and that parents support their students in having such a communication device.
- We take no responsibility for any mobile phones while in the care of students. The intention and focus of this policy is to **educate** students on appropriate use of mobile phones, recognising that they can be a distraction to learning and their use addictive.

Mobile Phones in Public Schools Policy

- Our policy complies with the Department of Education Mobile Phones in Public Schools Policy.
- The Department of Education does not permit student use of mobile phones in public schools unless for medical or teacher directed educational purposes.
- The intent of the Mobile Phones in Public Schools Policy is simply - “off and away all day”.

Communication

- All mobile phone communication with students (e.g. parents) during the school day should occur via the school’s office.

Policy Rules

- There is a ban on the use of mobile phones for all students from the time they arrive at school to the conclusion of the school day (“off and away all day”) unless the student has been granted an exemption for the following uses:
 - To monitor a health condition as part of a school approved documented health care plan: or
 - For a particular educational purpose under the direct instruction of a teacher; or
 - With permission of a staff member for a specified purpose.
- For the purposes of this policy, “mobile phones” includes smart watches, other electronic communication devices and associated listening accessories, such as, but not limited to headphones and ear buds.
- Smart watches must be placed in ‘aeroplane mode’ during the school day so phone calls and messages cannot be sent or received during the school day.
- “Off and away all day” includes before school and at break times.

Breaches to the policy

- If students are seen with mobile phones, they will be reminded of the policy in the first instance (“off and away all day”) and asked to put the phone away.
- Failure to comply with this request will result in a referral to the office. A consequence issued by the principal will depend on the severity of the non-compliance, and/or frequency of referral for mobile phone breaches.
- Typical consequences may include, confiscation of the phone, compulsory mobile phone check-in during the school day at the office and in severe cases suspension for Mobile Phone Policy breaches.

Our Vision

In partnership with our families, Menzies Community School provides a supportive learning place to build students of culture and character who contribute to the world.

Staff with mobile phones

- Staff are permitted to carry and use personal mobile phones under the following conditions:
 - The device is on silent mode or switched off in instructional areas;
 - It is not used while a staff member is on duty except under exceptional circumstances as defined by the Principal;
 - It is not used to access social media during instructional or duty times.

Ref: <https://www.education.wa.edu.au/dl/nl1zz64>

Endorsement of the policy

Review: 2024

