

Gawler East Primary School

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MOBILE TELEPHONE POLICY

The following policy applies to all school personnel, visitors, volunteers and contractors and is based on a set of values shared by teaching staff and the Governing Council.

RATIONALE

The use of telecommunications technology has now become the norm rather than the exception for many of our families. Students, parents and teachers are accessing this facility in increasing numbers. Our core business of teaching and learning needs to be conducted in an environment free from unnecessary distraction or disruption. Therefore the school discourages the bringing of Mobile Telephones to school by students but we accept there are times when it might be deemed important. We are therefore prepared to allow them on the premises only within the parameters of this policy and only when it is deemed necessary by parents.

EXPECTATIONS

Students

- ❖ Mobile telephones are brought to school entirely at the owner's risk. The school will not be involved in disputes and/or investigations over damage, loss or theft.
- ❖ **Students are not to have mobile phones in their possession during school hours.** The phone needs to be handed to school staff in the Front Office or the Class Teacher at the beginning of the day and collected by the students at the end of the day.

Telephone calls made to and by students

- ❖ Any telephone calls made by students during school hours must be made via a supervised school phone.
- ❖ Telephone calls from families or carers to children can be made to the front office. We can confidently assure callers that messages received prior to 3 pm will reach their destination.

If these procedures have not been followed, the mobile phone will be confiscated from the student and the parent will be asked to collect it from the school office.

Staff

- ❖ Personal mobile telephones are brought to school at the owner's risk. Neither the school nor DECD can accept responsibility neither for any loss or damage nor for investigating such.
- ❖ Personal mobile phones are to be carried and used for contact with the Front Office in emergency situations.
- ❖ Personal calls should be received and made during non-instructional or break times only.
- ❖ Phones must be muted during meetings.

Parents, Visitors and Contractors

- ❖ All users are to switch their phones to mute or discrete when in public areas, including meetings, interviews and classrooms.
- ❖ All parents and visitors are to take and make mobile calls outside teaching and learning areas.

Exemptions from the expectations of this policy can only be approved by the Principal and then only in exceptional circumstances.

