Kewdale Primary School

Mobile Phones in Schools Guidelines

Rationale

The Department of Education does not permit student use of mobile phones in public schools unless for medical or teacher-directed educational purposes.

It is important to note that it is **NOT** a requirement at Kewdale Primary School for students to have a mobile phone at school.

Kewdale Primary School recognises that an increasing number of parents/carers who for safety, security and/or emergency purposes wish to provide their children with mobile phones. These guidelines detail the conditions under which mobile phones are permitted at Kewdale Primary School.

Important Note

*For the purpose of these guidelines, the term **'mobile phones'** includes smart watches and associated accessories, such as, but not limited to, headphones and ear buds.*

Conditions of Use

The use of mobile phones for all students will be banned from the time they arrive at school to the conclusion of the school day. This includes before school and at break times. Students are **NOT** permitted to have mobile phones in their possession during the school day.

Phones must be turned off and be handed to the classroom teacher during the day.

The school accepts **NO** responsibility for the safe keeping of these devices if brought to school.

Smart watches must be in 'aeroplane mode' so phone calls and messages cannot be sent or received during the school day.

Exemptions & Communication

Exemptions to these guidelines include where a student requires a mobile phone:

- to monitor a health condition as part of a school approved documented health care plan.

- under the direct instruction of a teacher for educational purposes; or with permission of a teacher for a specified purpose.

Kewdale Primary School has a duty of care for all students when they are attending the school. All communication between parents and students, during school hours, should occur via the school's administration.

Breaches of the Guidelines

Breaches of these guidelines will be managed in accordance with the School Behaviour Management Policy and Procedures.

Students who do not comply with this policy will have their mobile phone confiscated and held at the administration office. The parent/carer will be informed and requested to collect the mobile phone at their earliest convenience.

In the case of repeated inappropriate mobile phone use by the student, the principal may request the withdrawing of the mobile phone from the school for a determined period, or permanently.

Staff

During teaching time, while on playground duty and during meetings, mobile phones will be turned off or put on ‘silent’ or ‘discreet’ mode. The only exemptions to this are in exceptional or urgent situations.

Electronic Devices – iPads, MP3s, Portable Games etc

Kewdale Primary School discourages any student bringing any of these devices to school. If a student brings such a device to school, it must remain in the student’s bag and not be used during the school day

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