



Student Mobile Phone Policy

**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.*

AIM

To ensure that student engagement and learning is maximised whilst protecting the privacy and security of all people within our school.

POLICY STATEMENT

It is important to note that it is not a requirement at Margaret River Senior High School for students to have a mobile phone at school.

The Department of Education does not permit student use of mobile phones* in public schools unless for medical (documented healthcare plan) or teacher directed educational purpose. Margaret River Senior High 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. This policy details the conditions under which mobile phones are permitted at Margaret River Senior High School.

PROCEDURES

- The use of mobile phones for all students is banned from the time they arrive at school to the conclusion of the school day. This includes before school and at break times (**off and away all day**). Students who bring their mobile phone to school are required to switch it off or to silent. Smart watches must be in 'aeroplane mode' so phone calls and messages cannot be sent or received during the school day.
- Mobile phones should be stored in the student's bag or locker. Students have the option of handing their phone in to Student Services office before the commencement of the school day and collect at the end of the school day. The student owner of the phone will be recorded, and the phones securely stored until collected.
- All communication between parents and students, during school hours, should occur via the school's administration or Student Services.
- In emergencies, where students need to get in contact with parents/carers, students are to notify the appropriate school staff. If parents/carers need to contact their children, they are asked to contact the school directly.

BREACHES OF THIS POLICY

- Students seen wearing headphones or using mobile phones (or similar devices) before school or during breaks will be asked to hand the headphones and mobile phone over to the staff member. The staff member will record the student's name and store the items at Student Services for collection by the student at the end of the day. Parents will receive a letter explaining DoE Policy requirements.

- Students using headphones, mobile phones, or similar devices, during class will be asked to hand the headphones and mobile phone over to the teacher. The teacher will record the student's name and store the items in the Learning Area safe for collection by the student at the end of the day. Failure to follow teacher direction comply will result in consequences as per the school's Behaviour Management policy.
- Any student who refuses a teacher's request to hand over their phone (or other mobile device) will receive sanctions as outlined in the school's Behaviour Management policy. These sanctions may include suspension and the loss of their entitlement to bring a mobile device to school for a specified period of time.
- Multiple breaches of this policy will result in additional consequences such as detention, loss of the privileges associated with Good Standing and suspension. This will also include meetings with the student, their parent/carer and the Student Service Manager or Deputy Principal.
- Any student found to use their phone to record, distribute or upload inappropriate images or videos of students, parents or staff on school premises will be suspended.

***Disclaimer: Margaret River Senior High School does not encourage students to bring mobile phones to school and takes no responsibility for any loss or damage of devices. ***

RELATED DOCUMENTS

[DoE: Student Mobile Phones in Public Schools Policy v1.0](#)