

MOBILE PHONE AND ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

RATIONALE

Karrendi Primary School recognises that mobile devices (phones, smart phones, tablets etc.) are a valid and important communication tool and a part of contemporary society. However, they can be improperly used, lost, damaged or stolen and therefore, must be effectively managed.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Staff will:

- ensure students have a clear understanding of the Mobile Phone and Electronic Device Policy.
- collect mobile phones and electronic devices from students in the morning and place them in a lockable cupboard or filing cabinet.
- discuss the appropriate use of mobile phones and other electronic devices.
- communicate with parents, caregivers and leadership about students using mobile phones and other electronic devices at inappropriate times and in inappropriate ways.
- teach skills and strategies in relation to appropriate behaviour choices with regards to the use of mobile phones/electronic devices in the context of the Child Protection Curriculum.
- model their commitment to this policy by turning mobile devices on silent and not using mobile phones including calling and texting during teaching time or other formal contact times, unless specifically negotiated with line manager.
- have access to mobile phones when required for excursions, camps and yard duty.

Students will:

- bring mobile phones and electronic devices to school at their own risk. If a student brings a phone/device to school, it is his/her responsibility.
- not utilise mobile phones or electronic devices on school grounds before school.
- not lend their mobile phones or electronic devices to other students to use.
- not contact their parents/caregivers using their mobile phones. All essential contact (i.e. illness) is to be communicated by staff.
- give their mobile phone or electronic device to their class teacher in the morning and collect it at the end of the day.

Parents/Caregivers will:

- be made aware of the school Mobile Phone and Electronic Device policy.
- support and encourage children to follow the policy.
- not use mobile phones or other electronic devices to take photos or video of children other than their own without parents/caregivers permission.

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Leaders will:

- positively reinforce the appropriate use of mobile phones and electronic devices.
- make the policy available to the school community.
- support staff with the implementation of the policy.
- contact parents/caregivers if students are found to be inappropriately using mobile phones or electronic devices.
- remind parents/caregivers at the beginning of special events (e.g. concert) to:
 - turn their mobile phone off or on silent.
 - be respectful to the other audience members when taking photos/video of their own child/children.
 - not upload photos/video containing children other than their own to social media network sites e.g. Facebook, Instagram, YouTube etc.
 - provide an opportunity for parents to take photos of their child(ren) following special events.