



WEST PYMBLE PUBLIC SCHOOL

School Mobile Phone & Smart Watch Guidelines

At West Pymble Public School we aim to empower our students to engage and learn with confidence, courage and empathy by providing an education that inspires them to become global citizens. For the purposes of this guideline, 'digital communication devices' refers to mobile phones and smart watches.

West Pymble Public School discourages students from bringing mobile phones and smart watches to school. These communication devices cause disruption to the teaching and learning in class and the playground and can be used inappropriately to access social media and take photos without permission. This can cause distress and breach the privacy of others.

If a parent feels it is necessary for their child to bring a digital communication device to school, then the rules for student use of mobile phones and smart watches in the school are listed below:

- Devices brought to and kept at school are used entirely at their owner's risk. The school cannot accept any responsibility for theft, loss or damage of these devices. Students and parents should also recognise that mobile devices are a highly prized target for theft.
- During the school day, mobile phones are to be kept in the teacher's storeroom at all times including, before school, recess and lunchtime, and must be switched off or on silent.
- During the school day, smart phone, smart watch, notification alerts and location must be switched off. Parents are able to contact their children by calling the school phone number. If necessary, students can contact parents from the office phone.
- During the school day, phones and watches are not to be used to call home in an emergency. This is the duty of the school and the administrator/teacher in charge.
- During the school day, phones and watches are not to be used to call home in the event of a mishap at school or because belongings have been forgotten unless at a teacher's discretion and under the supervision of the teacher – in the main, these events are to be dealt with by the school. Parents will be informed of any events that have impacted on their child.
- Phones and watches are not to be used in the classroom, playground or incursion/excursion for any of the following purposes; check text messages, access games, the internet, images, the camera or videos.
- Phones and watches are not to be used to harass, bully or intimidate students or staff. Breaches will be dealt with as per the Department's and school's Behaviour Guidelines.

Any use of mobile phones and smart watches by a student, that is in breach of these rules, will lead to the confiscation of the device. In this instance, parents will be notified and confiscated devices will need to be collected from the administration office by the student's parent or guardian at the end of the day.

Drafted by	BE Wilson	Approved	Executive	Review	Executive
Date	March 2023	Date	March 2023	Date	March 2024