



MOBILE TELEPHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Revised January 2016

Somers Primary School has a duty of care to protect children from unfettered access to the Internet and to protect their rights to privacy.

Scope

This policy covers staff, students, parents and other persons present in the School at any given time.

Aims

To limit the impact of mobile phones, cameras and digital games on children.

Awareness

All staff should be thoroughly familiar with this policy. There should be regular discussion groups/training amongst staff about how to identify and deal with situations which may constitute discrimination, vilification or sexual harassment. The occurrence of such discussions/training, and the participants, should be documented. Steps will be implemented to communicate with the parent body the use and function of this policy within the broader school policy framework.

Definitions

For the purposes of this policy, we are referring to any communication device, mobile telephones, walkie-talkies, electronic games and digital cameras and any other device which has the capacity to transfer information electronically.

Policy

1. The School recognises that some parents require their children to carry mobile telephones.
2. The restriction on the use of mobile telephones applies while children are at School.
3. Mobile telephones must be lodged at the front office for safe keeping.
4. All mobile telephones should be clearly labelled with the name of the child.
5. Mobile telephones will be stored in the School's security store for safe keeping.
6. Mobile telephones and other electronic devices will be left in the care of the Out of School Hours Care coordinator for children in that program.
7. Children are able to collect their mobile telephones prior to exiting the School grounds at the completion of the School day or at the completion of extra-curricular School-based activities or earlier if there are leaving School early.
8. All electronic games, cameras and any other communication device are not permitted at School without permission of the Principal.

9. Children who need to telephone home are able to do so by asking the Principal who will assist them to use the School telephone.

Basis of Discretion

The parent may seek approval for a particular electronic device to be brought to School by mutual agreement for specific purposes, eg. to show at morning talk. These discussions will need to include agreement about security and ensuring the privacy of others.