



**Mobile Phone Policy**  
**Busselton Senior High School**



*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.*

## **POLICY STATEMENT**

Busselton Senior High School does not allow mobile phones to be accessed by students at any time while they are at the School. These devices are banned for all students from the time they arrive, until the conclusion of the school day. Mobile phones are to be, "off and away all day".

## **BACKGROUND**

The mobile phone is an effective and quick means of communication. Where unforeseen events occur, mobile phones provide students and their families with a ready means of communication. Some parents will provide their children with mobile phones for safety reasons especially while travelling to and from school. There is a need, however, to set a clear position on their use during the school day to avoid unnecessary interference with teaching and learning, and also minimise the incidences of cyber-bullying and recording and distribution of inappropriate images and videos.

Communicating with students:

- Parents or caregivers wishing to leave messages for their children should do so by telephoning the School. Staff will ensure that messages are passed on during break times.
- Office staff will also assist students who need to contact family or other persons in an emergency.

Students should be discouraged from bringing their mobile phones to school, however, if a parent provides their child with a mobile device for safety reasons, they must ensure that the phone is not to be accessed over the school day. Students will have an opportunity to hand their phones in at Student Services on arrival at school and retrieve them as they leave at the end of the day. Phones will be secured in a phone locker for the duration of the day. Students who choose not to take up this opportunity are solely responsible for the security of their phone and accept the risks associated with them being stolen and/or damaged.

*(An exemption to this policy may be granted for a student to monitor a health condition as part of a school approved documented health care plan.)*

## **SCOPE**

This policy applies to all students at Busselton Senior High School.

## **RELEVANT LEGISLATION**

*School Education Act 1999 - Sections 89 to 96, 223*

*School Education Act Regulations 2000 - Regulations 38 to 46*

## **PROCEDURES**

- Students must turn their Mobile Phones off or to "aeroplane mode" as soon as they arrive at the School.
- Students have the opportunity to hand in phones to Student Services on arrival at the School.
- On leaving at the end of the day, students will report to Student Services and retrieve their phone. Student Services will again assist with this.

- Any student found acting in breach of these guidelines can expect that a staff member will take possession of the mobile phone and deliver it to the Associate Principal who will issue a *Notice of Inappropriate Mobile Phone Usage* to the parent/caregiver. The mobile phone will be returned when:
  - **FIRST BREACH:** The letter is signed by a parent/caregiver and returned to the Associate Principal. The phone will be returned to the student at the end of that day.
  - **SECOND BREACH:** A parent is required to come in to the School to collect the mobile phone during the normal business hours of the school.
  - **THIRD BREACH:** The student will NOT be able to bring a mobile phone to the School.
  
- Students who are repeatedly found to have breached the BSHS Mobile Phone Policy will face further consequences such as detention and loss of privileges and rewards.
- If a student is found to have breached this policy and subsequently fails to relinquish their mobile phone to a staff member, they will immediately be referred to the relevant Associate 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.

### **Review**

The impact of Changing Technologies and Departmental Policies will determine how we assess the effectiveness and relevance of this policy.

Review Date: June 2020