



## MOBILE PHONE POLICY SUBIACO PRIMARY

### RATIONALE

Mobile phones are important modern day communication tools, essential in providing a safe and effective school environment. However, they can easily be improperly used, lost or damaged and must therefore be effectively managed. Students are encouraged to use the school telephones under supervision should the need arise with mobile phones available to children for use before and after school hours.

It is essential that all communication between students and anyone outside the school, during the school day be made with full knowledge of the school.

### AIMS

To utilise the benefits of mobile phones whilst managing the problems they can potentially cause.

### BACKGROUND

As with many technologies there are numerous benefits but also some hidden risks.

- The mobile phone could be viewed as a toy or gimmick.
- Children could be contacted at random by strangers.
- Mobile marketing companies can spam mobile phones with advertising messages.
- Mobile phones can become a 'safety blanket' for children and be relied upon too much for help. Children need to learn other strategies for getting assistance like, rather than being over-reliant on the mobile phone.
- Mobile phones can be a distraction when used during school time.
- Bullying and harassment can occur through text messaging.
- Children may become vulnerable to others wishing to steal the phone or memory card.
- Children may not be able to secure the phone with passwords. This can potentially lead to other people amassing expensive bills if the phone is misplaced or stolen.

### PROCEDURES

#### Students

- Students are not to bring personal mobile phones to school unless permission from the principal has been successfully sought by parents who have outlined the health, safety or personal reasons that justify the student being in possession of a mobile phone.
- The school does not accept responsibility for lost or damaged student mobile phones.
- Student's mobile phones must not be brought to classes, meetings, assemblies or similar organised activities. The phones are not to be used during the school day, **including photos taken on school grounds**. They should remain secured in bags.
- Mobile phones and students using them must not cause disruptions to classes or individuals, and must not cause a nuisance to the smooth running of the school.
- Students misusing personal mobile phones at school or causing a nuisance will be brought to the attention of the principal.
- The principal may revoke a student's privilege of bringing or using mobile phones whilst at school.
- The school reserves the right to prohibit students from bringing mobile phones into certain spaces or during certain activities.

#### Staff

- The school will purchase and maintain enough mobile telephones and service contracts to satisfy its needs.
- Teachers in charge of all excursions and trips involving students must ensure appropriate communications devices accompany each trip.

### EVALUATION

Reviewed by the School Administration at regular intervals.

Mobile Phone Agreement Attached.



## SUBIACO PRIMARY SCHOOL MOBILE PHONE AGREEMENT

We have read and understood the Subiaco Primary Mobile Phone Policy.

We have read, understood and discussed the procedures about mobile phone use at Subiaco Primary School and will abide by these procedures.

I understand that if my child does not abide by these procedures that the mobile phone will be confiscated and my child will not be allowed to have a mobile phone at school.

We have read and understood the potential dangers of mobile phone use and we have discussed these these potential dangers together.

Name of child: \_\_\_\_\_ Child's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Year/Class \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_