POLICY NO. 28
MOBILE PHONE AND INDIVIDUAL MUSIC PLAYER POLICY

MOBILE PHONES AND DEVICES CAPABLE OF DISPLAYING DIGITAL IMAGES

The term mobile phone includes all devices that can connect to the internet and/or share messages – referred to in the Policy as digital devices.

While we recognise that digital devices are part of everyday life in our community, in a school they can distract students from their learning and are at risk of damage, loss theft and have the potential for misuse.

Crystal Brook Primary School makes its phone readily available for students to make contact with home or for other pressing necessities. When messages are received from parents there is a mechanism in place to ensure that the message gets to the student usually via the afternoon class bag.

With these strategies in place, it is difficult to see that digital devices are a necessity for students to use during the school day.

The procedure below will govern the use of digital devices by students at Crystal Brook Primary School.

1. Digital devices brought to school will be the responsibility of the student with school staff accepting absolutely no responsibility for security.

2. Students bringing digital devices to school should bring them to the Office where they will be kept in a secure location and are to be collected by students at the end of the day. A sign in/sign out procedure will operate as a safeguard.

3. Any student in breach of any of the above points can expect to be dealt with under the school’s Student Behaviour Management Policy for refusing to comply with a reasonable request and/or threatening the good order of the school.

4. Students are reminded of the DECS Policy on harassment and that this applies equally to electronic transfer, at all times.

5. Consideration will be given to students having digital devices on camps and excursions if parents make a request in writing and if this agreed to by the Principal.

INDIVIDUAL MUSIC PLAYERS – WITHOUT INTERNET CAPABILITY

Individual music players have a place in the lives of young people, but they are not suited to classrooms where all students need to be focussed on their learning. Therefore, individual music players brought to school will be the responsibility of the student with school staff accepting absolutely no responsibility for security. Individual music players may only be used during breaks ie. recess and lunch times.

During use by students at recess and lunch time

- The device is not to be shared with another individual.
- The volume should always be set so no one else can hear the device being played. (If others can hear the music it is set too loud and could damage the user’s hearing).
- Selection of music and the accompanying lyrics should be situation appropriate – if the language wouldn’t be acceptable at school then the music is not suitable to bring to school.
- Any student using such a device will, without question, turn the device off if instructed to do so by a staff member.
- It must be understood that being allowed to use such a device is a privilege which may be withdrawn if there is abuse of the privilege.