



Gulfview Heights Primary School

(Endorsed by Governing Council March 16th 2013)

Mobile Phones & Electronic Devices Policy

Rationale:

The staff and Governing Council acknowledge that mobile phones and other electronic devices (ipads, iphones, ipods, cameras, CD players, laptops etc.) are invaluable teaching tools. The staff has a responsibility to provide a safe and supportive environment for all students and adults, at all times. These devices, when used irresponsibly also present the potential for risk to individuals, groups and or the school culture. The school has considerable access to a variety of media and technology to support student learning and maximise learning opportunities for individual students with special needs.

Expectations & protocols for the use of mobile technology & electronic devices on site:

- Students are strongly discouraged from bringing expensive personal items to our school, including mobile and electronic devices eg. ipads, ipods, cameras, laptops, Gameboys etc
- Staff acknowledge the safety and communication reasons for having a mobile phone when travelling to and from school. However, they consider that the school's landline and administrative procedures fulfil the need for students to give and receive information by phone during school hours.
- The core business of our school is to promote and support teaching and learning in an environment free from unnecessary distraction and disruption and free from the risk of harassment and/or bullying eg. taking photos without ones consent, texting etc.
- Mobile telephones and other electronic devices that are brought to school remain entirely at the owner's risk. For this reason, mobiles and electronic devices must be handed to the class teacher or front office staff to be secured during school hours.
- Neither staff nor Governing council will be involved in disputes or investigations regarding damage, loss or theft of these devices.
- Mobile phones & electronic devices should not be taken into teaching and learning areas or used for teaching & learning purposes without the consent of teaching staff and Principal.
- Adults using mobile phones should be switched to mute or discreet during meetings, interviews etc. The making and receiving of mobile telephone calls should be kept to a minimum and done, except in emergencies, outside teaching and learning time and areas.
- For security reasons staff members will have access to a mobile phone while on camps and excursions.
- Requests for exemption from this policy must be made in writing to the principal. Exemptions will only be given in exceptional circumstances.
- Any breaches of this policy by students will result in the mobile phone or electronic device being confiscated from students by a staff member and the parents advised that they can collect it from the principal.
- This policy applies equally to all DECD employees, visitors, volunteers, contractors etc.