

## STUDENT MOBILE PHONE USAGE

In making reasonable rules about what students can and cannot bring to school, schools can ban anything which is illegal, dangerous or is likely to cause disruption or harm to the smooth running of the school and the education of other students. The use of mobile telephones and other electronic equipment by students at school, if unmonitored, can become disruptive.

In some circumstances, mobile telephones, and those with the capacity to record digital images can be appropriately incorporated into the learning program. Such occasions will be rare. Otherwise, except in times of genuine emergency or if the use is a sanctioned part of the educational program, mobile telephone usage is to be restricted. The school will permit students to bring mobile telephones to school for use by students whilst travelling to and from school and for safety reasons.

Mobile telephones and other electronic equipment are used at their owner's risk. No liability will be accepted by the school in the event of loss, theft or damage to any device unless it can be established that the loss, theft or damage resulted from the school's negligence.

## SCHOOL PROTOCOLS REGARDING MOBILE PHONE USAGE

- Mobile telephones may only be brought onto the school grounds, or to a school event, by students where consent has been given by parents/caregivers and the principal. This consent is to be signed and stored on the student file in the school office.
- Unless specifically approved by the principal as a part of an educational or health based requirement mobile phones may not be taken into a classroom and must be checked in and out of the school office at the commencement and finalisation of the school day.
- Mobile telephones may not be used at lunchtime.
- Should students need to contact parents, or parents need to contact students during the school day, this should be done through the school office.
- Appropriate action in line with the Elimbah State School Code of Conduct will be taken against a student should they record or distribute images of other students or staff without their consent or use a mobile telephone to harass or bully other students.
- Mobile telephones should never be used in a place where it would be inappropriate to take a camera i.e. school toilets
- Any student who may need to access their phone in special circumstances during the school day should do so after receiving permission from their class teacher or the school principal or deputy principal.
- Where a student breaches this policy the consent of the principal for the student to bring a mobile telephone onto the school grounds may be withdrawn.