

WILLUNGA HIGH SCHOOL

Mobile Phone Use



Willunga High School has the following procedures to manage the appropriate use of mobile phones and other electronic storage devices.

Mobile phones can be a valuable learning resource for students but can also be a distraction from learning and so students are supported to use their phones and other devices in a responsible manner while at school. It is important to remember that phones and other devices are:

- brought to school at student's own risk
- only to be used in classes / learning spaces with the express permission of the teacher present
- to be out of sight and turned off /silent at all other times.

Please see Middle School policy included for more detailed information.

Taking pictures or movies of someone else without their consent is illegal and will be managed through the school's Responsible Behaviour code.

Cyber bullying

This has been of major concern where inappropriate messages and harassment of other students and teachers can occur. There are many instances where young people will say something about another person that is hurtful on social media which causes significant personal harm to those affected. Sending these messages is illegal.

For students not using mobile phones in a responsible manner the following actions may be taken

- Students are warned and parents/caregivers may be contacted via SEQTA or a note will be placed in their diary.
- Students are sent to Focus Room for inattention to study and disruption of the learning environment. Parents/caregivers will be contacted via letter, phone or through a SEQTA message. After 3 focus referrals a suspension may be given. Reconnection meetings will be held with parent/caregiver and student to discuss inattention to study and disruption of the learning environment.
- The student may be suspended from school for failing to follow school rules and expectations. The school will contact the police if there is any evidence of illegal or threatening activity resulting from the use of electronic devices.

What parents / caregivers can do

- Contact your child through Student Services if the need arises. If you must contact your child directly please only do this during recess and lunch breaks.
- Be supportive of our legal responsibility to ensure that Willunga High School has a safe environment.
- Be aware of what your child is downloading and storing on their mobile devices.
- Know that if a phone or mobile storage device is lost or stolen, the school is not able to take any responsibility for this loss or theft.
- Be aware that students who use electronic communication to threaten, share inappropriate material or engage in bullying behaviour will be reported to the police as it is an offence to engage in this behaviour.
- Download a free internet content filter to help block, monitor and screen inappropriate websites.
- Encourage your child to keep passwords confidential.
- Encourage your child to use their internet connected devices in a public area of your home so their online activity can be observed and discussed.