



# Pennant Hills Public School

## Mobile Phones & Smart Watch

### *Policy & Procedures*



**PENNANT HILLS PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
**MOBILE PHONES AND SMART WATCHES POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

**1. Introduction**

At Pennant Hills Public School, we aim to empower our students to engage and learn with respect, responsibility and aspirations in a caring and nurturing environment. To help create global citizens we support the NSW Department of Education's (DoE) Student Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Guidelines which enables students to bring their own device to the classroom.

For the purposes of this policy, 'communication devices' refer to mobile phones and smart watches. At Pennant Hills Public School we ask that any communication devices sent with a student be "Off and Away – All Day".

**2. Purpose**

At Pennant Hills Public School, based on the new NSW Government restrictions policy we have developed a "Off and Away – All Day" approach to communication devices. This policy extends beyond the classroom to also include before school, recess and lunch times.

These procedures promote the learning, safety and wellbeing of students and the management of any risk of harm and distraction from the use of digital technology accessed via a mobile phone or smart watch.

**3. Key Considerations**

The aim of this policy is to provide:

- 3.1 A safe learning environment that limits devices disruption and prevents opportunities for social media to be accessed or photos taken without permission.
- 3.2 Greater opportunities for social interaction and physical activity during recess and lunch times.
- 3.3 Meet the requirements of the NSW Government's Policy restricting the use of mobile phones and electronic devices at school.

**4. Policy Requirements**

Student Expectations

- 4.1 Students may not use mobile phones or smart watches while on school grounds at any time. 'School grounds' extends to school excursions, sports carnivals and other events at the school or off site where an approved school activity takes place, unless otherwise advised.
- 4.2 Mobile phones are to be "Off and Away - all day!" from the time students enter school grounds in the morning, until they have left school grounds at the end of the day. This includes before school and at break times.
- 4.3 Students must switch their smart watch to 'aeroplane mode' for the duration of the school day.
- 4.4 BYO or school issued laptops are NOT part of this policy, however, these devices are not to be accessed before school or during break time in the playground.

Students will have their device immediately confiscated and further disciplinary action will follow if:

4.8 They are using their device in class (excluding laptops) or in the playground without permission.

4.9 The device is used to bully, intimidate or otherwise harass other people through any voice call, text message, photographic, video or other data transfer system available on the device.

4.10 Use digital devices to disrupt the learning environment or interfere with the operation of the school day.

4.11 Students use communication devices to record images, video or sound without permission.

## **5. Exemptions / Adjustments**

Exemptions/adjustments can be made if a communication device is required to manage a Health Condition and/or Disability Adjustment. Any health-related exemptions can be sought by parents/caregivers by contacting the Deputy Principal.

## **6. Parent Responsibilities**

In accordance with the procedures parents/caregivers will:

6.1 Contact the school Front Office to pass on messages rather than contacting a student directly on their communication device.

6.2 Understand that the school takes no responsibility for loss or damage to communication devices.

6.3 Work collaboratively with the school and help reinforce Pennant Hills Primary School's Use of Mobile Phones and Smart Watches Policies and Procedures with their child/ren.