

PENNANT HILLS



HIGH SCHOOL

Principal
R WARREN BA (Asian Studies) G. DipEd, G. Cert. Ed. Lead.

Deputy Principal
F PAYNE BA (Hons) G. DipEd

Deputy Principal (Relieving)
R NICCOL BEd, Dip Teach

Darug and GuriNgai Country

Laurence Street
PENNANT HILLS NSW 2120

Phone : 9473 5000

Fax : 9473 5099

Email: pennanthil-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

ABN 18 246 198 266

MOBILE PHONE POLICY 2022

PENNANT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

Rationale

At Pennant Hills High, we believe in empowering students to take responsibility for their own learning as self-directed and resilient members of the community. Our three core values of Responsibility, Integrity and Achievement underpin our mobile phone policy. We acknowledge that most students will have a mobile phone provided to them by their parents/caregivers and, while not recommended, will bring these to school. Research shows that the presence of mobile phones in classrooms can have a detrimental effect on student performance unless they are being actively used as a learning tool under teacher guidance. We also recognise the direct relationship between innovative technology and the achievement of positive student learning outcomes.

We therefore restrict mobile phone usage during school hours to help manage phone usage when students are in our care. Our aim is to promote a safe and effective learning environment for all students that reduces this source of unnecessary distraction, along with reducing inappropriate online behaviours.

Students can bring mobile phones to school. They should adhere to the school-wide expectation that phones and earbuds are off and in bags when they enter our buildings, classrooms, all learning spaces, assemblies and school event locations. If parents/caregivers need to contact their child urgently during school hours, they should call the school and we will facilitate the communication.

Mobile Phone Guidelines

All students are to consistently apply the following rules:

- **Phones and earbuds in bags, switched off:** Students are to ensure that this occurs before entering a classroom or learning space as outlined above.
- **Phone use in a lesson is only at the classroom teacher's discretion.** Students should follow the usual Technology Go / Technology No agreement. Teachers will give clear directions for technology use in their lesson which may include laptop only usage. When phones are being used in class for learning activities, they must not be used for:
 - Making calls, sending messages or use of any social media apps.
 - Audio or video recording or photographing of any person at school without their direct consent. This rule also applies in the playground.

- **Phone use in the playground:** It is recommended that students do not use phones in the playground and, instead, use the time to engage in physical exercise, participate in extra-curricular clubs or have conversations with their peers. No phone calls should be made on school premises.
- **Phone use on excursions, incursions or at sport:** Classroom rules apply as outlined above.

When misuse of mobile phones occurs during class time, the following procedures will apply:

- **False Start Rule - one class warning.** Just like in a race, a mistake made by one student will trigger a warning to all students about mobile phone usage. After this warning, it is considered that all following instances of phone misuse will result in immediate confiscation of the phone. An individual student does NOT need a personal warning.
- **First confiscation:** Confiscated phones will be taken to Public Reception for storage with the Deputy Principal and recorded as a breach of the Mobile Phone / Electronic Device Policy. Student takes the phone to the Deputy Principal, and it will be placed in an envelope and retained securely by the Deputy Principal. Office staff will provide a receipt to the student which the student will show to their class teacher and retain for phone return. The phone will be returned to the student by the Deputy Principal at the end of the day after the final bell, when class is dismissed.
- **Second confiscation:** Should a student have their phone confiscated for the second time in a calendar year, the same process will occur. The Deputy Principal will send an email to parents/caregivers to alert them to the second confiscation and issue a consequence to the student.
- **Third and following confiscations:** Should a student have their phone confiscated for a third or more times in a calendar year, the same process will occur. The Deputy Principal will arrange a meeting with parents/caregivers and issue a consequence to the student. This could include the phone being handed in each morning and collected each afternoon and a Level 3 Behaviour Monitoring Card.
- **Non-compliance with Mobile Phone Procedures:** If any student ignores teacher direction or does not comply with the Mobile Phone procedures, it becomes a formal discipline matter and the Deputy Principal will meet with the student and issue a consequence. Further non-compliance will result in a parent/caregiver meeting and actions as outlined above.

NOTE: The security of a mobile phone brought to school is the responsibility of the student. The school accepts no responsibility for lost, damaged or stolen mobile phones.