

STUDENT MOBILE PHONE IN SCHOOLS POLICY

Policy

The Department of Education does not permit student use of mobile phones in public schools unless for medical or teacher directed educational purpose.

It is important to note that it is not a requirement at Thornlie Senior High School for students to have a mobile phone at school.

Thornlie Senior High School recognizes that an increasing number of parents/carers who for safety, security and/or emergency purposes wish to provide their children with mobile phones. This policy details the conditions under which mobile phones are permitted at Thornlie Senior High School.

Conditions of Use

- The use of mobile phones for all students is **NOT PERMITTED** from the time they enter the school grounds to the conclusion of the school day (this includes recess and lunchtime), unless under the instruction of a teacher or staff member for educational purposes. Mobile phones should be 'off and away all day'.

Exemptions and Communication

Exemptions to this ban include where a student requires a mobile phone:

- To monitor a health condition as part of a school approved documented health care plan; or under the direct instruction of a teacher for educational purposes; or with permission of a teacher for a specified purpose.
- Smart watches must be in 'aeroplane mode' so phone calls and messages cannot be sent or received during the school day.
- Thornlie Senior High School has duty of care for all students when they are attending the school. In emergencies, where students need to get in contact with parents/carers, students are to notify the appropriate school staff. If parents/carers need to contact their children, they are required to contact the school directly on 6235 7900 or via email – Thornlie.shs@education.wa.edu.au.

Breaches of this Policy

- Breaches of this policy will be managed in accordance with the *School Behaviour Management Policy and Procedures*.
- Students who do not comply with this policy will have their mobile phone confiscated and held at Student Services. The student can collect the mobile phone at the end of the school day.
- In the case of repeated inappropriate mobile phone use by a student, their mobile phone will be confiscated and held at the (Student Services) or (Administration). The parent/carer will be informed and requested to collect the mobile phone from the school at their earliest convenience.
- Further disciplinary action, in accordance with Thornlie Senior High School student *Behavior Policy and Procedures* may be a result of repeated breaches and or depending on the circumstances of the breach.

Further Guidance

For the purposes of this policy, "mobile phones" includes smart watches and associated listening accessories, such as, but not limited to, headphones and ear buds.