

THORNLIE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Mobile Phone Policy

Thornlie Senior High School encourages the responsible use of mobile phones and electronic devices at all times. Users must display courtesy, consideration and respect for the rights of others when using their device.

Inappropriate use of mobile phones interferes with the good order of the school, and may lead to the disruption of learning and the invasion of privacy. Breaches of this policy include:

- Photographing or recording of staff and students without permission
- Uploading images to web-sharing networks with information and images being accessible to the wider community
- Mobile phone users being in possession of inappropriate images on their phones
- Communicating with other students during class time and in other classrooms
- Interruption to classes by ringing phones
- Bullying and intimidation
- Students phoning parents to pick them up and leaving school without following the school processes and/or not signing out
- Use of phones during exams and assessments
- Phoning parents during the investigation of behaviour incidents and undermining the school's processes
- Bringing outside issues into the school via technology

Both current and potential inappropriate use of mobile phones present a significant risk to the operations of the school and the privacy of staff and students.

The following statements explain Thornlie Senior High School's policy on mobile phones.

1. The school's insurer for loss, damage or theft does NOT cover student property.
2. The school recognises that some students access their mobile phone as a device for educational purposes. This is allowed at the discretion of the teacher in charge.
3. Responsible use of mobile phones during break times is permitted.
4. Inappropriate use of phones (eg: use during lessons without permission, group messaging, offensive material, harassment of another person) will result in the phone being confiscated for the remainder of the school day and collected by the student from Student Services at the end of the school day. The onus is on the staff member to deliver the phone to Student Services. Serious offences will invoke further sanctions eg: student privileges withdrawn, detention, parental contact or suspension.
5. Refusal to hand over a phone when found to be using it inappropriately is deemed to be failing to follow an instruction and students can expect to be dealt with under the school's Behaviour Management Policy.
6. Following a second confiscation the device will only be returned when parents have been contacted by Student Services. Student privileges may be restricted or withdrawn.
7. Following a third confiscation the student will be suspended from school for 1 day.
8. Students needing to make emergency phone calls may do so from the Student Services desk.
9. Any student who is feeling unwell and needs to go home, must arrange this through the School Nurse or another member of the Student Services team and sign out after parental permission is obtained.
10. Parents needing to contact students urgently can do so by phoning Student Services and a message will be passed on to the student.