



ELECTRONIC DEVICES POLICY

Clifton Hill Primary School

May 2011

Rationale:

At Clifton Hill Primary School, we acknowledge the value electronic devices can play in promoting intellectual, social and emotional development in children. However, we recognise that adequately regulating access to these devices during school hours poses a great difficulty. Inappropriate use of these devices can produce unintended social and emotional difficulties. This policy aims to regulate student use of all electronic devices that children may potentially bring to school to protect the privacy and wellbeing of all members of the school community.

Definition of an Electronic Device:

- Any hand-held gaming device (Nintendo DS, Sony PSP, etc.)
- Any camera. This includes all digital or film cameras, phone cameras and video cameras
- Any mobile phone (including Smart Phones)
- Any other device with the capability of creating, storing and/or playing audio or video files electronically.

Principles:

This policy is guided by the following principles:

- Students may own or have regular access to electronic devices
- Clifton Hill Primary School recognises the convenience of mobile phones in allowing easy access between parents and students and providing a sense of security for students
- Clifton Hill Primary School recognises the value of electronic devices for enjoyment, education and recreation (e.g. listening to music whilst commuting to and from school)
- Electronic devices that can potentially load a range of different games (without ensuring that all games are G Rated) are not appropriate within a primary school setting
- Electronic devices are increasingly capable of accessing the internet and of communicating with each other. When unsupervised, this is not appropriate within a primary school setting
- Access to bringing electronic devices from home may be governed by the high cost of the devices and this presents issues of equity regarding access within the school grounds
- School recess and lunch breaks afford students the opportunity to be involved in active, physical, social play with their peers. Although these devices may promote some social interaction, they do so in a passive and sedentary way.

Implementation:

These procedures are to be followed if students need to bring electronic devices to school:

- Electronic devices are to be handed in at the office or to the student's classroom teacher prior to 9:00 am and collected at 3:30 pm
- Electronic devices will be stored in a secure location

- The school will take no responsibility for electronic devices brought to school by students
- In special circumstances (school camps, excursions, incursions, etc.) students may be permitted to bring electronic devices to these activities. The equipment list for such activities will include these devices as permitted items
- In certain circumstances teachers may permit a student to use a personal electronic device during class time. This use will be supervised by the teacher giving permission. Students will not be given permission to use personal devices capable of communication (such as messaging, accessing the internet or making phone calls) during class time.

A student found with any electronic device during school hours will have the device confiscated and returned at the end of the school day. Parents will be informed and requested to discuss an appropriate course of action with the school.

No devices capable of communication (such as messaging, accessing the internet or making phone calls) will be permitted on school excursions or on school camps due to concerns about the possibility of theft and/or misuse. During excursions and/or camps staff members are in contact with the school office via staff mobile phones. On all occasions, parents are encouraged to communicate with students via the school office.

REVIEW: 2014