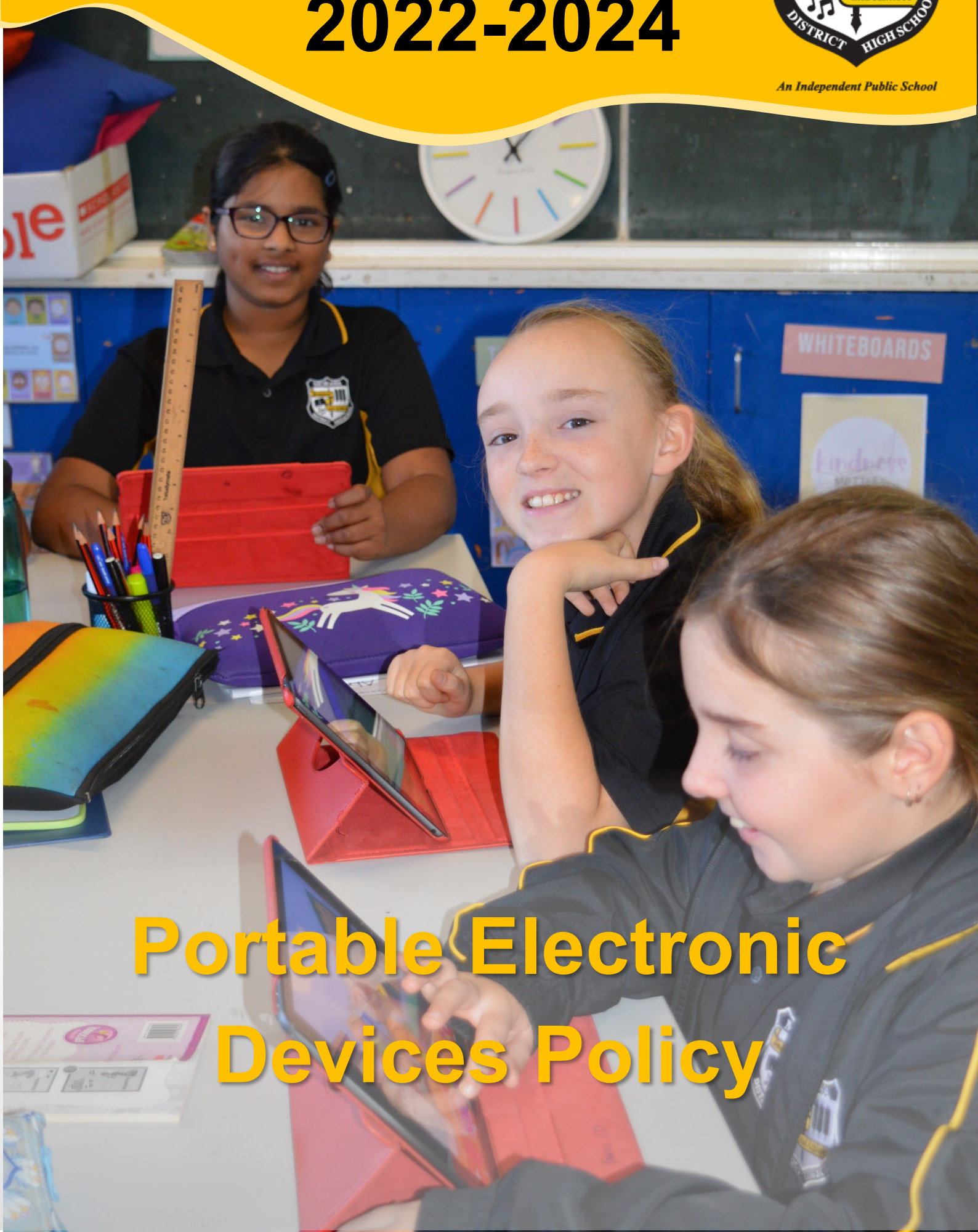


Morawa District High School



An Independent Public School

2022-2024



Portable Electronic  
Devices Policy



## Portable Electronic Devices Policy

[Mobile phones, Smart watches, MP3, tablets etc.]

### Background

This policy communicates the school's position on student use of mobile phones, iPods and other similar technologies whilst on site in the normal course of their studies.

The aim of this policy is to protect our students and assist in maintaining good order in the school. More specifically, we wish to:

- address privacy concerns in change rooms, toilets and the grounds in general (in the case of devices with inbuilt cameras);
- reduce interruption to classes;
- reduce issues related to transfer of credit;
- reduce unsupervised internet access;
- reduce stealing; and
- eliminate inappropriate messages being sent between students via SMS, social media, MMS, emails.

### Requirements of Students

Morawa District High School secondary students bringing devices to school are required to have them switched off and kept in school bags for the duration of the school day. Devices can only be taken from bags and used following the final bell for the day. Students and their families should note that these items are brought to school at the students' own risk.

In some circumstances, a teacher may have reason to ask a student to use the mobile device for the benefit of learning. In these cases, students will be asked to limit their device usage to the learning activity and return them to the bag after the task is complete. This is the only exception and students are expected to follow direction from the teacher.

Primary students cannot have a mobile phone in their possession. This means if a student brings a mobile phone to school, it will be stored until the end of the school day. Exceptions are allowed for students who have approval from me to use a phone to monitor health conditions, or where teachers give students permission to use mobile phones for a specific purpose.

All smart watches, which must be aeroplane mode so that messages can't be sent or received.



## Consequences and Security

Students failing to abide by this requirement will either be asked to hand it directly to the staff member concerned. Students failing to do as asked, will be subject to the standard behaviour sanctions explained in our Behaviour Management Policy and all staff will notify a deputy or myself using a yellow behaviour card.

A register of confiscated devices will be kept for security purposes and the item will be returned to the student at the end of the School day.

## Support for Students

To support students and their families, office staff will assist students in using a school phone in the event a student does need to contact their parents and will also deliver messages phoned through by parents.

## Procedure

- Each morning a reminder will be said over the PA system that phones are to be 'Off and Away'.
- If a portable electronic device (PED) is sighted after this, it is to be taken to the office and recorded in the tracking folder as a J (visible/audible electronic devices)
- If a student refuses to hand over their PED they will receive a Yellow Card and be referred to Administration.
- All staff are to be consistent with this procedure.

## Cyber-bullying

The school is aware of the potential harmful effects of bullying, including online bullying (cyberbullying) on young people and take reports of bullying seriously. Cyberbullying involves the use of technology to bully a person or group with the intent to hurt them socially, psychologically or even physically. Cyberbullying includes abusive texts and emails, hurtful messages, images or videos, imitating, excluding or humiliating others online, nasty online gossip and chat.

Any incidences of cyberbullying within the school will be addressed using the schools *Preventing and managing bullying policy*.

Students and parents are encouraged to report any incidences of cyberbullying to the school.