

PERSONAL DIGITAL DEVICES POLICY

Whyalla Special Education Centre seeks to provide a safe and secure environment for all students and staff.

Whyalla Special Education Centre staff work collaboratively with DECD Education Support Services, Community, Private Health Professionals and Disability Specific organisations e.g. Autism SA, Novita, to appropriately integrate the use of technology in learning programmes.

Identified students use technology to:

- Develop effective communication
- Share information with families
- Refine specific skills and tasks
- Improve sensory integration

The widespread ownership of mobile phones and Personal Digital Devices among young people requires that school leaders, teachers, students and families take steps to ensure that they are used responsibly.

School owned DIGITAL DEVICES:

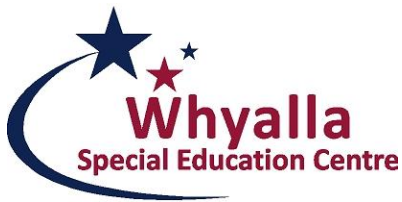
Currently, Whyalla Special Education Centre has laptops and desk top computers, iPads are available to all classes and are not loaned out to individual students and families for use outside of school. Students use technologies and particular assistive software and applications under teacher direction, according to individual and/or group learning programmes.

Personally owned DIGITAL DEVICES

Students are able to bring Personal Digital Devices, including mobile phones to school in accordance to Negotiated Education Plan and Individual Learning Programmes.

The procedure is as follows:

- They need to come from home fully charged
- Mobile phones are to be switched off, kept in a secure location while at school & returned at the end of the day.
- Personal Digital Devices brought to school will be the responsibility of the student/family with school staff accepting no responsibility for security or damage.
- Whyalla Special Education Centre staff will supervise the use of Personal Digital Devices during the day.
- Personal Digital Devices will only be used by the student who owns the device.
- Student/family will agree to only having appropriate, non-offensive, material on personal digital devices. *(please check with WSEC staff if you are unsure about an material prior to downloading it to your device.)*
- Families will utilise the restrictions feature on iPads/iPods and deactivate the use of the
 - Camera
 - YouTube



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- Families will utilise the restrictions feature on iPads/iPods and set appropriate ratings for music, movies, TV shows, books and Apps.
- Students/families are reminded of the DECD Policy on harassment and that this applies equally to information shared on digital devices; including mobile phones.
- Families are encouraged to regularly check devices and report harassment and inappropriate material to leadership.

Please contact your child's teacher to clarify any concerns you have with regards to this policy.

Furthermore, you may contact the school and make an appointment with the Principal to further discuss the use of Personal Digital Devices at Whyalla Special Education Centre.

DECD policy excludes the use of personal digital media being used to take photos on school grounds unless it is with school property.

DECD Social media policy covers bullying and harassment through social media towards peers in the same site.

3/6/2016 to be reviewed 2 yearly