

# Music in School Policy



## Williamstown High School

Developed in 2019



# Music in School Policy

## Development process

This statement explains “why” the policy has been developed. The general overview of the policy refers to any background or directives that led to the development of the policy.

## 1. Rationale

At Williamstown High School we value and are interested in creating and enhancing a learning community that maximises the learning opportunities for all students during the school day. The school understands that there are times when students may want to listen to music on devices (eg: mobile phone, ipad, netbook device, other type of devices). This policy clearly outlines our expectations regarding the appropriate use of listening to music on music devices by students during the school day and extra-curricular activities.

## 2. Purpose

A brief statement defining “what” the policy is intended to accomplish and the aim of the policy.

The school aims to provide a happy, safe and stimulating learning environment for all students. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that listening to music does not disrupt this learning environment. The policy seeks to clarify the responsibilities of staff, parent/guardians and students with regards to appropriate use of listening to music on music devices by students during the school day and extra-curricular activities.

## 3. Implementation

This section details “how” the policy statement will be achieved. It may set requirements for different parts of the school community (for example, staff, students, parents) as well as outlining “who” will be responsible for the implementation of the policy.

### The School will:

- Take a school-wide consistent approach to explicitly teaching expectations about appropriate use of listening to music on music devices during the school day, particularly in the classroom, and during extra-curricular activities.
- Inform all new students and staff of the music in school policy and practices at WHS.
- Implement periodic professional learning for staff that will better inform staff members of current issues and strategies to proactively handle issues regarding the appropriate use of listening to music on music devices during school hours.
- Ensure staff maintain a consistent approach to enforcing the policy.

### Student and parents/guardians responsibilities:

- It is the responsibility of students to abide by the guidelines outlined in this policy. Parents/guardians need (reasonably) to be aware of the school expectations and potential ramifications should their child participate in unauthorised use of music devices.
- Music devices are brought to and kept at school and used entirely at the owner’s risk. The school cannot accept any responsibility for theft, loss, damage or health effects (potential or actual) resulting from these devices.
- Students and parents should recognize that devices are a target for theft, consequently, they should always be stored in a safe and secure place.
- Parents, guardians and students are asked to respect the learning environment at WHS. Listening to music on music devices must be used only under teacher direction for educational purposes. This includes listening to music on music devices while undertaking studies in the classroom, during study sessions and during extra-curricular activities
- These guidelines also refer to listening to music on music devices during assemblies, excursions, incursions, extra-curricular activities, camps, detentions, reflection / reteaching sessions or other teaching activities.
- Under the direction of the Student Welfare Coordinator, and with the support of the parent / guardian, some students may be given an exemption to the above guidelines to support their wellbeing.

#### 4. Specific procedures

This section outlines the practical processes that tell people exactly what they have to do to operate within this policy.

##### **During the school day and extra-curricular activities:**

- Listening to music on music devices must be used only under teacher direction for educational purposes. This includes listening to music on music devices while undertaking studies in class, during study sessions and during extra-curricular activities
- Students are able to listen to music on their music devices (with the soundless features switched on) during lunchtime and recess only, unless otherwise allowed by a supervising teacher.
- When students are listening to music on a music device it must not be used in any manner or place that is disruptive to the normal routines of the school or to other people.
- Student's music devices must be placed securely in the student's locker or carried by the student in a safe and out of sight manner (eg: in zipped pocket) when not in use.

##### **Music Devices must not be used:**

- During class time, study sessions, assemblies, excursions, incursions, extra-curricular activities, camps, detentions, reflection / reteaching sessions or other teaching activities, unless otherwise allowed by a supervising teacher e.g. where music devices may be used for e-learning or other learning activities.

##### **School procedure for inappropriate use of music devices:**

- Students who listen to music on a music device inappropriately at school will be dealt with consistently by the Student Engagement and Wellbeing team, in accordance with the school's Student Wellbeing and Engagement and Bullying Prevention policies. This may involve the confiscation of a student's music device.
- If a student's music device is confiscated it will be stored securely in the school safe and returned after a meeting with the student, parent/guardian and / or relevant school member.

#### 5. Evaluation and review

Policies must be reviewed on a regular basis. A defined review cycle should be stated.

This policy was ratified by the School Council in 2019 and will be reviewed as part of the 3 year school review cycle and in the event of any incident which may prompt a review of the policy.

#### 6. References

Sometimes technical terms will need to be defined. Also other related policies or DET guidelines might need to be referred to.

<http://www.uloop.com/news/view.php/149570/Do-Or-Dont-Studying-While-Listening-To>  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1281386/>  
<http://psychcentral.com/lib/top-10-most-effective-study-habits/2/>  
<http://www.mindthesciencegap.org/2012/10/08/does-music-help-you-study/>  
WHS Mobile Phone Policy

#### 7. Consultative process

Briefly outline the consultative processes used to develop and ratify this policy. Which groups or committees were involved.

This is a school based policy and therefore consultation was undertaken with students, teachers and parents. We choose to present all policies at school council for noting and ratification. This policy was tabled at the Education Policy Sub Committee during term three for discussion and noted in the minutes at school council for ratification. It was developed in consultation by the Student Engagement and Wellbeing Team and Campus Principal at Bayview.

#### **Ratification:**

This policy was ratified by school council on 26 March 2019.