



# Electronic Devices & Mobile Phone Policy

## Philosophy Statement

Epic Holiday Camps are committed to creating a fun and safe environment for school-aged children to enjoy meaningful **real-world experiences** to remember forever. With a focus on **learning through play**, we offer exciting **age-matched activities** to support children in gaining confidence, developing their identity and enhancing their **health and wellbeing**. Organisational culture is important to us and we strive to build teams of motivated, fun and **engaging teachers** who children and families can **respect and trust**. Effective communication with children and their families underpins everything we do, ensuring we foster respectful relationships and **continually improve** our program delivery.

## Policy Rationale

EPIC Holiday Camps develops programs with children's health, wellbeing and fitness in mind. With young people reportedly spending several hours a day on screens we believe kids need more time being physically active and socialising with people as much as possible. For this reason we do not incorporate any screen time into our programs however, on days of extreme weather events we may allow children to bring their own device at their own risk. This will be communicated to parents and carers via email the day before camp day.

## Procedures

Educators at EPIC Holiday Camps have the responsibility to ensure that:

- The amount of time children can choose to participate in the following experiences; television, video and films, computers and electronic games will be limited or at times, completely banned.
- Mobile phones are not permitted unless deemed absolutely necessary and allowed in consultation with the guardian. Parents can contact their child on the program mobile.
- The content of the program/game on electronic device is appropriate for all the children present and does not contain any physical or verbal violence or ridicule. These activities are limited to C & G Ratings. PG Ratings will be individually assessed by the service and parents for appropriateness.
- The name of a movie will be published on the online booking form and Parent/Guardian authorisation automatically given should they enrol for that day.
- The parents/families have the responsibility to ensure that:

Children **ONLY** bring electronic games from home into the programs with the consent of the coordinator. All games must be of a G Rating. EPIC Holiday Camps educators take no responsibility for games brought to the service. They are the responsibility of the child. Staff are



permitted to confiscate a game if they believe it to be inappropriate and it will be returned to the parent upon collection of the child. All electronic games may only be used in combination with the planned experiences.

- Staff may program days where electronic games are allowed to be brought into the program. Parents and children will be notified of when these days are scheduled.
- Bystander children watching a child play a game will not be allowed.