

Releasing student and staff information

Overview:

The Department of Education must respect the privacy of public school students and staff members.

Privacy of information:

WA public schools must keep student records and information confidential. Staff details are also confidential.

Filming, photography and media interviews at schools:

At each public school the principal is the site manager. If media representatives wish to come on to a school site they must seek permission from the principal before any filming, photography or interviews begin. It is advisable to call ahead.

Students may only be filmed or photographed with the permission of the school principal and only if the principal has approval from students' parents/carers.

Interviewing students:

Students may only be interviewed by media representatives with the permission of students' parents.

Students may only be filmed or photographed with the permission of the school principal and only if the principal has approval from students' parents/carers.

Bereavement and tributes:

Occasionally a tragedy strikes which impacts a school community. WA public schools must respect the privacy and wishes of affected families at these times.

Sometimes there may be a period of time before authorities, usually WA Police, confirm details of those who have been injured or have died. This occurs after next of kin have been notified.

Schools cannot release unconfirmed or unauthorised details.

When appropriate, a principal or other representative may wish to make a statement in tribute to a former student or staff member. Photographs and other mementoes held by the school will only be released with the permission of the bereaved family.

Family Court orders and schools:

It is not the role of schools to interpret or enforce court orders, or to mediate disputes between parents. The school's role is to provide for the education of students and their safety and welfare while in the school's care and control.



Related information:

[WA Police](#)

Media contacts:

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