



Principals have a duty of care to protect students and staff from unprecedented long term exposure to harmful Electromagnetic Radiation (EMR) in schools.



Familiarise Yourself With The Issue

Principals, teachers and policy makers must educate themselves to ensure that their duty of care is not compromised by exposing students and staff to Electromagnetic Radiation (EMR) in schools. Children and teenagers are especially vulnerable to the harmful effects of wireless radiation. Therefore, it is imperative that a precautionary approach is employed.



Undertake A Wireless Device Risk Assessment

Principals and school officials should conduct a risk assessment by determining sources of EMR in classrooms and on school grounds. Sources may include Wi-Fi, wireless computer networks and devices, building infrastructure and/or nearby mobile telecommunication infrastructure. Injury to wireless radiation is not insurable and third party product liability is not covered by Insurance companies. You may wish to engage a building biologist for a professional environmental risk assessment.



Consult With A Building Biologist

Building Biologists are radiation experts who will measure and determine the environmental health risks associated with exposure to EMR emissions in classrooms and on school grounds. Become a SEEN member and receive a professional EMR assessment discount.



Hardwire Teaching Technologies

Take immediate precautionary action by hardwiring all technology devices, such as computer networks, internet connections, printers, projectors, computer accessories (mouse, keyboard & headphones) throughout school grounds to ensure an EMF safe space. This is the first step to protecting students and staff from long term exposure to wireless radiation. Hardwiring is a relatively simple process, however schools without pre-existing infrastructure may want to adopt the following interim solutions.

Interim Solution A – Network Based Timer

A network based timer system can be custom developed for schools to manage & schedule when your Wi-Fi is on or off.

Interim Solution B – Wifi Kill Switch

With the flip of a switch, you can manually shut on and off all WiFi routers to minimize wireless radiation exposures when the internet is not in use.





Develop & Implement Policies

Create and maintain policies for wireless device use in classrooms that reflect a precautionary approach. Incorrect implementation of wireless technology can create over exposure and hot spots in the classroom compromising the health, well being and learning capacity for some students.

These policies should aim;

- To limit or ban Wi-Fi, personal tablets, mobile phones, hotspot devices and all other devices with wireless emissions in classrooms.
- Disallow the use of all devices in classrooms unless they are used as part of the lesson and under supervision.
- Facilitate non-wireless methods of communication between students and parents, such as a corded landline.
- Educate staff and students of the health risks; teach them how to reduce exposure, such as hardwiring, selecting "airplane mode" and keeping the device at distance from the body and ensure their understanding of and adherence to EMF Safe policies.

We refer you to Upper Sturt Primary Wi-Fi & Wireless Device policy for guidance.



Reduce Reliance on Wireless Technology for Learning

Do not rely on wireless technologies for learning. When the curricula requires internet connectivity, limit it to specific times rather than allowing students to access technology freely. Facilitate "offline" learning opportunities. Utilise books, print outs or download and install files for curriculum prior to students' use. It is proven that children learn better without distraction and some schools are going back to text books. When technology *is* used, ensure that the internet connection is hardwired with Bluetooth and Wi-Fi capabilities disabled.



Educate The Community

EMR exposures are a community issue. School officials may like to host information seminars to educate parents and teachers about safer use of technology, the challenges of parenting in the digital age and strategies that will minimize the health risks of wireless devices. Promote hardwiring workshops and demonstrations on how to create a low EMF computer workstation. Inform the community, to help curve device addiction and the psycho-social implications. Contact SEEN for assistance or to learn more.

