



Mobile Phone (and similar devices) Policy

Governor Lead:

Standards Committee

Nominated Lead Member of Staff:

Headmaster

Last Review Date:

July 2020 (minor)

Aim

- All pupils use their mobile phones and similar devices safely
- No child's welfare or learning progress is damaged by their or another pupil's use of mobile phones or similar devices.

Mobile phones, if their use was allowed in school, would be a major distraction away from learning. Furthermore, they foster gossip and dependency. Their connectivity via 3G and 4G etc allows unfettered access to the internet and its inherent dangers.

OUTLINE of policy:

- Mobile phones and similar devices to be turned off and stored in an inside pocket or school bag as soon as school grounds are entered, until the pupil leaves the school grounds.
- Misuse will result in confiscation initially until the end of the day, 5 days for a second misuse, 10 days for a third misuse.
- Smart watches are not allowed

DETAIL of policy:

Pupils are not allowed to use their mobile phones and similar devices whilst on school site. For avoidance of doubt, in effect this means the school buildings and grounds and in locations that could reasonably be regarded as under school's jurisdiction when undertaking its functions e.g. at field centres for field trips or travelling to and from games fields

In practice this means:

- Mobile phones and similar devices (music players etc) must be turned off and stored in an inside blazer pocket (NOT breast pocket) or schoolbag as soon as the pupil enters the school grounds. They must remain switched off until the pupil leaves the school grounds.
- If a pupil needs to contact home, they must ask permission from a teacher, explaining why and the teacher will judge whether the call has to be made. In any event such calls should be made only at break times.
 - If the teacher agrees the call should be made then the pupil is allowed to make the phone call from the school office, under supervision and when appropriate to do so, ie at a suitable break-time. This should be a very rare event.
- Mobile phones will not be allowed to be used as calculators; requests to do so will be refused. School makes recommendations for calculators so that pupils become expert in their use in readiness for their examinations.
- Mobile phones will not be allowed to be used as cameras eg to photograph displayed work
- On school grounds, no headphones etc should be in use nor should they be worn.
- Using a phone as a time piece will not be excused as a reason for their use. There are clocks visible around school and watches (not smart watches) are recommended instead.
- Parents must support us in this: you must not phone your child's mobile phone when you know they are at school nor prime them to receive such calls. If you need to contact your

child, phone school reception and we will relay any message of allow contact as and when appropriate.

Parents should recognise that schools are busy places with children and this means greater chances for accidents and misbehaviour. We acknowledge that mobile phones are almost 'de rigueur' but they are also expensive and in practical terms, expensive versions are not needed for school use. For this reason but especially to ensure no misuse of mobile connectivity, 'smart watches' must not be brought to school. Their wearing or use will be treated the same as mobile phones.

Loss and breakage are at the owner's risk and pupils are responsible for their care. During games, mobile phones (and indeed any other expensive or fragile items) should be handed to the teacher for safe-keeping.

Pupils choosing to flout these rules will receive the following corrections:

1. Any pupil seen using or handling their mobile phone or similar device (i.e. if the phone is NOT away in a pocket and turned off) will have the phone confiscated. The pupil must hand their phone to the member of staff who will label the device and it will be stored in the school office for safekeeping until the end of the day when it can be collected. The pupil's standard card will be marked accordingly.
2. If this happens a second time within the academic year, then the phone will be confiscated for 5 full days.
3. Any further infringement of this rule will result in the device being confiscated for 10 full days.
4. At the start of a new academic year, the 'tariff' will be reset.

Parent/Carer will receive a notification confirming their child's mobile phone has been confiscated and held securely in the school safe.

Example:

I regret to inform you that J.S has had his mobile phone confiscated for the second time this academic year and it will therefore remain in school for a period of 5 days, as per the School Mobile Phone Policy. His phone may be collected at 3.20pm on _____

If he needs to contact home during school hours she may do so from the School Office.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Yours sincerely