

Mobile Phone Policy

Rationale

Mobile phones are now part of modern society and the majority of pupils will now own a mobile phone. We understand that, for safety reasons, pupils will carry a mobile phone in order to contact parents/carers after school/before school; however, mobile phones can lead to several problems in school such as bullying, disruption to lessons and inappropriate web usage. As a school, we strongly encourage our pupils to talk to each other and develop friendship groups at break and lunchtime, as opposed to using their mobile phones. As a result, the use of mobile phones during school hours is completely forbidden and pupils found using their mobile phone during school hours will be dealt with in accordance with this policy.

Purpose

1. To clarify the school position on mobile phones.
2. To ensure that staff, pupils and parents are fully conversant with the policy and understand the reasons for the policy.
3. To support our behaviour management policy that aims for outstanding behaviour and safety of pupils across the school.
4. To ensure that pupil welfare and safeguarding incidents associated with mobile phones are minimised.

Guidelines

1. Mobile phones must remain switched off during school hours. **This includes break and lunchtimes.**
2. Any pupil seen with their mobile phone during school hours, using it or not, will have their phone confiscated. **Phones must not be seen or heard.**
3. Confiscated phones must be taken to reception where the phone will be stored and the name of the pupil will be recorded. In the first instance the phone may be returned to the pupil at the end of the day. The pupil will be sanctioned.
4. For any further breaches of the policy by the same pupil, the parents or carers will collect the mobile phone and pupils will face a more serious sanction. **It might not be possible to return the phone on the same day.**
5. After the school 'end of day' pupils are allowed to use their phone outside of the school building as they exit the site.
6. During extra-curricular activities pupils are allowed to use their phone to contact home relating to safety/transport or for personal reasons before & after the activity.
7. When issues with mobile phones exist that involve serious misuse of the phone such as transmitting images or cyber bullying, parents will be brought into school and the Malicious Communications Act will be explained to them. This states that parents are responsible for the phone and any issues resulting from the phone when it is used by a 'minor'.