



Achievement for all

Mobile Phone – Addendum due to Covid 19

Adopted/Reviewed: October 2020

Date of Next Review: April 2021

Signed:
(Headteacher)

Date:

Signed:
(Chair of Governors)

Date:

Introduction

This policy sets out the school's position in determining what is 'acceptable' and 'unacceptable' use of mobile technologies by students whilst they are in school.

The purpose of this policy is to prevent the unacceptable use of mobile phones, camera phones, MP3 players and Apple watches (or equivalent) impacting negatively on learning and from preventing staff from concentrating on students' learning experiences.

The health and safety, including the safeguarding of all members of our school community is a high priority and this Policy has considered risk factors and historical behaviours that have compromised the safety of our community. This addendum serves to protect our community by minimising visitors onto our school site. This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Addendum to the Health and Safety Policy due to Covid-19.

In addition, in order to be fully inclusive, and to not see those students who do not have 'state of the art' mobile devices disadvantaged in their learning, the school has invested in technologies to support learning across the school.

NB: For the purposes of this policy, all references to 'mobile phones' should be taken to include camera phones, MP3 players, iPads, and Apple watches or their equivalents.

Policy:

- The school strongly advises that mobile phones should not be brought into school at all. Students have no legitimate need to use a mobile phone at all in the school day.
- The school accepts that there may be particular circumstances in which a parent/carer wishes their child to have a mobile phone for their journey to and from school.
- Where a mobile phone is brought into school, it is entirely at the student's and parent/carers own risk. The school accepts no responsibility for the loss, theft or damage of any phone or other mobile device brought into school.
- Mobile phones, which are brought into school, **must be turned off** (not placed on silent) and stored out of sight (**in a bag, not pockets**) immediately as the student arrives at the school gate. They must remain turned off, and out of sight, until the student has left the site at the end of the day.
- If a mobile phone is seen by a member of staff, that member of staff will be required to confiscate it immediately. The member of staff will log the confiscation and place the mobile device at reception for safe storage.
- When a mobile is confiscated, the matter will be recorded on the child's behaviour log.

- On the first occasion, on which a student's phone is confiscated, it will be available for collection by the student from reception at the end of the next school day. Phones can be collected from reception between the end of the school day until 4.00pm, Monday to Thursdays, and until 3.30 pm on a Friday. Please note, phones confiscated on Fridays will not be returned until the Monday.
- On the second occasion, a student's mobile phone is confiscated a telephone or google meet, meeting will be arranged for parents/carers to meet with their House Achievement Leader or a member of the senior leadership team. At this meeting arrangements for the phone to be returned will be agreed.
- If a mobile phone is confiscated for a third occasion, a google meet will be arranged for parents/carers to meet with a member of the school's governing body and SLT. At this meeting arrangements for the phone to be returned will be agreed.
- Any student who refuses to hand over a mobile phone, when requested to do so, will be removed from their lesson and the refusal will be treated as a disciplinary matter.
- It is forbidden to record photographic images, Google Meets (still or video) or sound recordings of staff or students at any time without their explicit permission.
- In accordance with the school's safeguarding protocols, the school reserves the right to search the content of a confiscated device where there is a reasonable suspicion that it may contain undesirable material, including those which promote pornography, violence or bullying. The school will involve the police as required.
- The school's Mobile Phone Policy is regularly communicated to all students and all families will receive a copy of the policy in their Induction Booklet.
- Where parents/carers of students need to contact students during the school day, they should do so only on the school telephone system via reception and not via mobile phones.

In order to be clear, all communication between students and parents/carers must go through the school reception. The use, by students, of mobile phones whilst in school to communicate with parents/carers is not allowed. Students can use the school's phone at reception.

Review of this Policy:

The proposed review date of this policy is April 2021. This review date may, however, be altered if guidance in relation to Covid-19 changes