



Mobile Phones: Acceptable Use Policy

1. Purpose

- Students, their parents or carers must read the policy and understand the acceptable use policy as a condition upon which permission is given to bring mobile phones to school.
- The acceptable use policy for mobile phones also applies to students during school excursions, educational visits and extra-curricular activities on the school site and on external visits.

2. Responsibility

- The decision to provide a mobile phone to their children should be made by parents or carers. It is incumbent upon parents to understand the capabilities of the phone and the potential use/misuse of those capabilities and ensure the relevant restrictions of usage are activated on the phone.
- Parents/Carers should be aware that if their child takes a mobile phone to school, the school cannot accept responsibility for any loss, damage or costs incurred due to its use.
- Parents/Carers are reminded that in case of emergency, the school Reception remains the first point of contact and can ensure your child is contacted quickly and assisted in the relevant way.

3. Acceptable Uses

- The school recognises the importance of emerging technologies present in modern mobile phones. Teachers may wish to utilise these functions to aid teaching and learning and students will have the opportunity to use these at the **direct** instruction of each individual class teacher. The use of mobile phones in one lesson for specific purposes does not mean blanket usage, in other lessons, is then acceptable. However, learners will not be disadvantaged by not having a mobile phone; a phone is not needed to access the curriculum and alternatives will be provided.



- Mobile phones should only be used in the designated areas and at the discretion of teachers in a lesson.
- Designated areas: Canteen and front of school during break and lunch time. Sixth Formers can also use their mobile phones in the Sixth Form Centre, as per the rules and regulations of study.
- Mobile phones and associated paraphernalia e.g. headphones, chargers etc. should not be seen whilst moving between lessons, at break time, lunchtime, during lessons or tutor time.
- If a phone is needed by a student for a medical condition or any other reason specific to them, staff will be made aware of these students and provided with information on why, when and how they may use their mobile phone.

4. Unacceptable Uses

- Students should not use mobile phones to check Show My Homework unless in a designated area, unless directed by the teacher, or 'the time'; this should be done on a watch.
- Using mobiles to bully and threaten is unacceptable. Cyber bullying will not be tolerated. In some cases it can constitute criminal behaviour.
- Mobile phones should not be used access inappropriate or age restricted sites. Parents should ensure the relevant restrictions have been activated on their child's phone.
- Students should not borrow another learner's mobile phone to access the internet or go online.
- Students should not use mobile phones to film or record in lessons or on the school site, unless directed by a teacher e.g. practicing for an oracy task.
- Unless express permission is granted, mobile phones should not be used to make calls, send messages, internet usage, take photos or any other associated application.



- Mobile phones are banned from all examinations.

5. Sanctions

- **If seen in classrooms** – 1 warning, 2nd time place on teachers' desk for the lesson, refusal to do this results in Confiscation
- **If seen on Corridors/Toilets** – Confiscation - given to Pastoral team/office/SLT
- 1st Confiscation: Collect at the end of the lunch
- 2nd Confiscation: Collect at the end of the day
- 3rd Confiscation: Parents collect*
- 4th Confiscation: Handed in for 5 days – each morning to LM

- Students arguing with any member of staff over a mobile phone infringement will be dealt with very seriously. Members of staff have been asked to implement the policy consistently and therefore there should be no cause for argument.