

Mobile Phone Policy

September 2013

MOBILE PHONE POLICY

The school recognises that mobile phones are now an important aspect of everyone's life and have considerable value, particularly in relation to individual safety. The school, therefore, accepts that students are permitted to bring mobiles to the school but that their use is limited and restricted.

The school aims to educate students in the responsible use of technology.

Whilst the Governors give permission for phones to be brought to the school, responsibility for the phone rests with the student and the school will take no financial responsibility for loss. The school bears no responsibility for confiscated items.

Responsible Use

Students must use phones etc responsibly at all times.

- i) Students must ensure that files stored on their phones do not contain violent, degrading or pornographic images. The transmission of some information is a criminal offence. Students found to be responsible for this will have their phone confiscated; it will be returned to their parent/carer, or passed to the police.
- ii) Cyber-bullying is completely unacceptable, students found to be responsible for this will have their phone confiscated; it will be returned to their parent/carer, or passed to the police.
- iii) The school is a workplace, phones must be switched off and kept in bags during and between lessons.

Note: all points in the policy apply to phones, i-pods, MP3/MP4 players and any similar device.

Rules

- 1) Students must not use phones during lessons. This means that phones must not be used, for example, for making/receiving calls, checking the time or texting. Phones etc must not be visible during lessons, they must be switched off and stored in the student's bag.
- 2) Headphones must not be worn during lessons.
- 3) Students must not use phones or MP3 players to broadcast music.
- 4) If phones are used at incorrect times, students will be challenged. If the problem reoccurs phones will be confiscated, and will be returned at the end of the lesson or the end of the day. If students dispute this, or offend persistently, parents will be asked to collect the phone from school.
- 5) If there is an emergency which requires communication with home, students must speak to a member of staff who will deal with the matter. Personal mobile phones must not be used in lesson time. In an emergency parents/carers should phone Reception and a message will be taken to the student.
- 6) Mobile phones cannot under any circumstances be taken into examination rooms. Breach of this rule will lead to invalidation of that examination and potentially other examinations.
- 7) Students need to acknowledge that it is a privilege to be permitted to bring mobile phones to school and abuse of this policy may lead to a curtailment of this privilege.