

Mobile Phone Policy

Rationale

Mobile phones are now a feature of modern society and most of our pupils own one. Increasing sophistication of mobile phone technology presents a number of issues for schools:

- The high value of many phones
- The integration of cameras into phones leading to potential child protection and data protection issues
- The potential to use the phone eg for texting whilst on silent mode.

It is not realistic to prohibit phones being brought to school, nor is it logistically possible for schools to collect phones in each morning and return them in the afternoon. It is our policy to allow pupils to have a mobile phone with them in school under the conditions outlined in the policy below.

Policy

1. **Phones must not be used for any purpose (eg Phoning, texting, surfing the internet, taking photos, taking videos).**
2. **Phones must always be switched off (not on silent mode) and kept out of view**
3. **If a pupil breaches these rules the phone will be confiscated and given in to the office. It will be returned to the pupil the following day on receipt of a letter from parents.**
4. **Phones must not be taken into examinations**

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's other policies in particular the Behaviour Policy.

Emergencies

If a pupil needs to contact his/her parents/guardians they will be allowed to use a school phone.

If parents need to contact children urgently they should phone the school office and a message will be relayed promptly.

Responsibility for mobile phones:

School accepts no responsibility **whatsoever** for theft, loss, damage or health effects (potential or actual) relating to mobile phones. It is the responsibility of parents and pupils to ensure mobile phones are properly insured.