

MOBILE PHONE POLICY

Policy Date: October 2020



Rationale

Mobile phones are now a feature of modern society and an increasing number of our staff and 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 ability to access the internet, potentially enabling inappropriate use.
- The potential to use the phone eg for texting during lessons whilst on silent mode.

Policy

Children:

- Phones must not be used for any purpose (eg phoning, texting, surfing the internet, taking photos, checking the time, taking videos) between the hours of 8.45 am and 3.15 pm.
- Phones must always be switched off (not on silent mode) and given to the school office on entering school.
- Only children in year 5 and year 6 are allowed to bring phones to school, when they walk home from school independently.
- If a child, in any year group, breaches these rules the phone will be confiscated and given in to the main office. It will be returned to the child's parent.

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

Emergencies

If a child needs to contact his/her parents/carers 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 children to ensure mobile phones are properly insured.

Review:

This policy will be reviewed regularly.