



MOBILE PHONE

POLICY

Rationale:

- As a school, we recognise that many students use mobile phones. There is an increasing number of students who bring mobile phones to school and this creates a safety and security risk.
- Children must not bring mobile phones on to the school site during school times unless there are exceptional reasons for doing so. Teachers must not use their mobile phones while teaching face to face, unless deemed an emergency.

Aims:

- The technology of mobile phones has developed such that they now have the facility to record sound, take photographs and video images. This new technology is open to abuse leading to the invasion of privacy. Taking of such images, without permission, contravenes the Data Protection Act of 1998.
- Mobile phones are expensive items and the school will not take any responsibility for the phone at school.

Implementation:

- Parents and children will be informed of the school's policy.
- Children must not bring mobile phones onto the school site during school times unless there are exceptional reasons for doing so.
- A written agreement is required by a parent/guardian if a phone needs to be brought on to the school site for an exceptional reason. The pupil must switch it off, hand it to their class teacher on arrival and collect it when they depart.
- Pupils are not permitted to take mobile phones on educational visits unless a written agreement between the school and the parent has been arranged. In this case the mobile phone will be handed to the teacher on arrival and collected when they depart.
- If a student is found to be using a mobile phone at school, parents will be asked to collect their child's mobile phone and the individual student concerned will be banned from bringing a mobile phone onto the school for an indefinite period
- In the case where a mobile phone is used to record sound, pictures or video images which are deemed to be an invasion of privacy the school will reserve the right to apply for an appropriate sanction which could include suspension from school and, in extreme cases, permanent exclusion.
- Staff may not use their mobile phones for personal call or messages while they are directly in charge of pupils.

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in Nov 2011

References: