Pittencrieff Primary School Mobile Device Policy



Part A - Rationale

Mobile devices such as smartphones and watches are a part of everyday life for many people including school pupils. Many devices are capable of a number of functions including taking photographs, video and audio recording and accessing the Internet. Whilst devices offer an opportunity for additional pupil security, particularly on the journey to and from school, they can also be a distraction from learning. This policy aims to protect pupils from misuse of devices in school and prevent the interruption of lessons and learning.

Part B - Policy Principles

The Key Principles upon which this policy statement is based are as follows:

- Promoting safety and well-being;
- Keeping individuals safe and protected;
- Improving learning and achievement;
- Raising standards of performance and achievement;
- Developing active and responsible citizens;
- Developing caring and confident communities.

Part C – Policy Outcomes for Pupils

- Pupils may bring mobile devices to school only when necessary and in agreement with the Headteacher.
- Pupils will learn about the safe use of mobile devices through health and wellbeing outcomes.
- Pupils must turn mobile devices off when entering the school grounds and hand them into the office at the beginning of the day.
- During the school day, the use of mobile devices for telephoning, texting, messaging, taking of photographs, audio or video or for gaming or accessing social media is not permitted.
- It is important to note that where a pupil is unable to or refuses to hand their device to a member of staff, a parent/carer will be called to pick up the device.
- If pupils have not handed in devices and this is confiscated during the school day, parents will be informed and will be asked to support by checking their child's device and removing anything which is in breach of this policy.
- Where pupils are unable to or refuse to comply with the expectations of safe device use, a review with parents will take place to support next steps. This will be agreed and assessed based on individual needs.

Part D – Policy Outcomes for Staff

- Staff mobile devices should be turned off or placed on silent during teaching times, and should be kept in a safe place at all times. Staff mobile devices should not be used for telephoning, texting, messaging, gaming or accessing social media during teaching and learning times.
- Staff mobile devices may be used in circumstances where an app or teaching tool is required that cannot be accessed from other school devices such as laptops or iPads.

Part E - Responsibilities

- Staff, pupils and parents are responsible for the security of their mobile devices; the school will not take responsibility for loss, damage or theft of a mobile device in any circumstance. Childrens' mobile phones will be stored in a box in the office and are not securely locked away.
- Staff, pupils and parents are responsible for ensuring they abide by this policy.
- School staff are responsible for the implementation of this policy.

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Further information can be found here:

<u>Guidance on Developing Policies to Promote the Safe and Responsible Use of Mobile Technology in Schools</u> Further Support Can be accessed here:

Keeping children safe online | NSPCC