

MOBILE PHONE POLICY

Rationale

We understand that many young people have access to mobile phones and they play a significant role in modern life and have a place in helping young people to learn and interact.

However, this policy is necessary in order to protect our children and staff. There are growing concerns of the misuse of mobile phones with camera and video capabilities by pupils in schools. Images of teachers and other pupils are able to be sent to other mobile phones or e-mail addresses and can be posted on the Internet. Incidents of online bullying are now commonplace.

It would not be appropriate for the school to introduce an outright ban on mobile phones since many young people and parents regard these as essential means of communication before and after school. However, while mobile phones can continue to be brought to the school there must be strict limitations on their use.

Use of Mobile Phones

All mobile phones, including camera and video phones must be switched off when entering school premises, including school playgrounds. They must remain switched off during the school day. This includes times when children are involved in after school clubs and school outings.

It would be a misuse of a mobile phone to record staff or pupils without permission. It would also be a misuse of a mobile phone to send unacceptable texts or images to other pupils.

Breach of the Policy

If the policy is breached the pupil's mobile phone will be confiscated, the incident will be logged and the parent/carer will be asked to collect the phone from the school office, after making an arrangement with either the Head Teacher or Depute Head. Any videos or images that constitute misuse in school will be deleted prior to the phone being returned.

Parents' Role

Parental co-operation will be sought by asking parents to discuss the school policy with their child in the event that it is necessary to bring a mobile phone to school.

All pupils, parent and staff will be expected to adhere to this policy.