

# Mobile Phones – School Policy



As a result of recent incidents involving the serious misuse of mobile phones in North Lanarkshire and a letter from the Minister for Education and Young People, the following school policy on mobile phones has been drawn up.

## School Policy:

Airdrie Academy accepts that mobile phones are part of today's technology and they can give both pupils and parents a greater sense of safety and security.

However there are various circumstances and examples of misuse which require restrictions on the actions of pupils with mobile phones in school.

## These would include the following unacceptable situations:

- the use of mobile phones which involves bullying e.g. by text.
- the invasion of privacy.
- the circulation of libellous or pornographic materials.
- the photography of other individuals without permission of a member of staff.
- disruption to the work of the school.

### **In addition, pupils should be aware of the following:**

1. "Phone Free Zones" – teaching areas, toilets and changing rooms.
2. "Phone Free Times" – during lessons – moving between classes.
3. You may use phones **only** before 8.55, at intervals and during lunchtime.

## Penalties for Non-compliance

Posters will be on display in all classrooms forbidding use of mobile phones. If these instructions are breached mobile phones will be confiscated. Phones may be returned to pupils at the end of the school day, usually by the appropriate Depute Head Teacher, unless a more serious offence requires the phone to be retained **e.g. where illegal use necessitates police action**. In such a case, parents will be informed.

Pupils are instructed to ensure that mobile phones are switched off during "phone-free times".

Parents are advised that should contact with their children become a matter of **urgent necessity**, the communication channel **must be** via the school office (Telephone: 01236 757675). If necessary pupils will be excused from class to receive such messages.