

Aith J.H. School

Mobile Device Policy



Mobile Device Policy

This policy provides guidance on the appropriate use of personal mobile devices by pupils and staff during school hours.

The aim of our policy is to ensure that:

- Learning and teaching is not interrupted
- Pupils are safe
- Pupils can be contacted in school during the day without the use of mobile phones
- When it is necessary, pupils have the means to make contact after school.

The Scottish government provides guidance notes on promoting the safe and responsible use of mobile technology in schools. They state that :

“used responsibly, mobile devices such as phones, tablets etc can enhance learning and teaching, communication and social experiences and can bring a sense of security to parents as their children enjoy more independent activities, such as walking to and from school unsupervised. Such devices can also be powerful tools when utilised by teachers to enhance learning and teaching.”

It is becoming increasingly the norm that parents give their children mobile devices to enhance personal security and safety. When travelling alone on public transport or commuting long distances to school. It is acknowledged that providing a child with a mobile device gives parents reassurance that their child can contact them if they need to speak to them. With the widespread ownership of mobile devices among young people to communicate and find out information requires that school staff, pupils, and parents take steps to ensure that mobile devices are used responsibly at school.

Use in School

There is a place for the use of mobile technology by pupils in the secondary classroom but these items can, and do, cause disruption to lessons and sometimes lead to confrontation between pupil and teacher and between pupils.

Some pupils who bring mobile devices into school are tempted to use them inappropriately. Most mobile devices can take photographs/videos which can be misused so infringing the right of personal privacy. Many of these devices are very expensive and provide the temptation for theft or can be easily damaged or lost.

The SQA reserves the right to disqualify students found with any electronic equipment in an examination. In this situation pupils should leave all mobile devices with the invigilator at the start of the exam

For Pupils

1. Travelling between classes and as you enter a classroom all devices should be switched off or set to silent mode and not visible. At this point earphones/buds should not be on/in ears.
2. Devices must be left in classrooms when going to the toilet.
3. Use of devices to communicate inappropriately with others during school hours will also result in confiscation.
4. If a pupil is using or seen with a mobile device in class without permission they will receive an initial warning. If this happens a second time during the lesson the device will be confiscated and the pupil will receive it back from the school office at the end of the day
5. A second occurrence of no 3 or 4 above will result in parents being informed.
6. If however, permission has been given by a member of staff, mobile devices can be used to enhance learning during a particular lesson.
7. Headphones/buds should not be shared between pupils.
8. Personal mobile devices should not be used to take photographs or videos of pupils or staff.
9. Devices should not be used in canteen whilst eating. It slows down throughput and is anti-social.
10. Use of personal speakers is to be used responsibly.
11. We advise that we cannot be held responsible for any damage/loss/theft and hold no insurance for such eventualities.
12. We accept that there will be times when parents feel it is necessary for them to contact their children urgently. Should parents need to contact pupils, or vice versa, this should be done following the usual school procedures: via the school office. (Tel no. 01595 807400)

For Staff

All staff should lead by example and not use mobile devices while working with children unless it is a necessary part of learning & teaching such as accessing information or capturing pupil work etc.