

Student Mobile Phone Protocol

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Rationale: We know that learning is significantly affected by the constant distraction of a mobile phone. We also recognise that social networking during the school day can be harmful and/or distressing. This raises safeguarding issues. We are also concerned that students may video, photograph or record adults and students without permission. The publication of such media online is illegal.

However, we also recognise that students and parents/carers will feel that students are safer if they carry their phones to and from school.

Our policy is easy to understand.

By 9am (or as soon as the student arrives if later):

- Students must hand their phones in to staff, who will store them securely until the end of the school day, or until the student leaves.
- Students do not take any personal items to off-site activities where they return to school at the end of the day. If they are not returning (eg an all day trip) the lead member of staff will look after their items and distribute them as they disembark.

Students may choose to deny they have a phone with them. Students who are found to have a phone (or any other electronic device) on them at any time during the school day will be asked to hand it over and it will be stored as above. The incident will be recorded on the behaviour log as an amber incident. If students persistently deny having a phone and are later found with one, there will usually be a consequence (eg removal of privilege such as reward trips).

If the student refuses to hand in their mobile phone, the incident will be recorded on the behaviour log as a red incident, and the student may:

- have the phone confiscated for the rest of the day
- the parent/carer may be asked to come and pick it up
- be refused entry
- be asked to leave the site

In exceptional circumstances, if a student has significant issues outside of school, we may make arrangements for them to be able to check their phone at suitable intervals.