



MOBILE TELEPHONE POLICY

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| SLT responsible | Assistant Headteacher, Pastoral |
| Signatures: Chair of Governor Headteacher | |

FEARNHILL SCHOOL

Rationale

Mobile phones are part of modern society and the majority of students now own a mobile phone. Fearnhill understands that, for safety reasons, students will carry a mobile phone in order to contact parents/carers before and after school; however, mobile phones can lead to several problems in school such as bullying, disruption to lessons and inappropriate web usage. Mobile phones are personal property and the school takes no responsibility for any damage or loss that may occur. Students who choose to bring mobile phones onto site do so at their own risk. As a school, we strongly encourage our students to talk to each other and develop friendship groups at break and lunchtime, as opposed to using their mobile phones. As a result, independent student use of mobile phones during school hours is completely forbidden and students found independently using their mobile phone during school hours will be dealt with in accordance with this policy.

Purpose

1. To clarify the school position on mobile phones.
2. To ensure that staff, students and parents are fully conversant with the policy and understand the reasons for the policy.
3. To support our Behaviour Management policy which aims for outstanding behaviour and the safety of students across the school.
4. To ensure that student welfare and safeguarding incidents associated with mobile phones are minimised.

Guidelines

1. Mobile phones must remain switched off and hidden away during school hours. This includes break and lunchtimes.
2. Any student seen using their mobile phone during school hours will have their phone confiscated. Phones must not be seen or heard.
3. Confiscated phones must be taken by members of staff to the pastoral office where the phone will be secured in a locked cabinet.
4. Parents may collect the mobile phone following the confiscation. Students are allowed to collect the phone at the end of the day in which the phone is confiscated.
5. When a student hands in their mobile phone, they must also hand in their 'sim' card.
6. Before the start and end of the school day, students are allowed to use their phone outside of the school building.
7. Students are allowed to use their phone during lessons when directed to by the teacher and with the explicit purpose of supporting the learning. For example, students may be asked to complete a Quizlet revision test. In this case, students must only use their own phones and must take full responsibility for its usage and upkeep.
8. Students are allowed to use their phone to contact home relating to safety/transport or for personal reasons after a drama, music or sporting activity. In this instance, staff should allow students to use their phone on the school site where appropriate.
9. Students who persistently infringe the Mobile Phone policy will be spoken to by their Head of Key Stage and their parent/carer will be contacted.
10. Students will receive assemblies explaining the Mobile Phone policy and the policy will be placed on the school website for parents/carers to access.
11. When issues with mobile phones exist that involve serious misuse of the phone such as transmitting images or cyber bullying, parents will be brought into school and the Malicious Communications Act will be explained to them. This states that parents are responsible for the phone and any issues resulting from the phone when it is used by a 'minor'.