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University of Birmingham School

Mobile Phone Policy

September 2018

University of Birmingham School Mobile Telephone Policy

Review Frequency	Every three years	Review date	June 2017
Governing Committee Responsible	Pastoral	<u>Approved(date)</u>	Next Due
Governor Approval (date)	17 September 2015	Website	September 2020
Staff Responsible	M Roden	Date Produced	10 August 2015

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At the University of Birmingham School we refer to Pupils (who are in Years 7-11 and aged 11-16) and Students (who are in Years 12/13 and aged 17-18)	

1 Rationale

- 1.1 Mobile phones are now a feature of modern society.
- 1.2 There is a real positive potential for the use of the technology of mobile phones (e.g. internet access, cameras, video and sound recording) to enhance learning both inside and outside the classroom.
- 1.3 The school also recognises the wishes of a number of parents/carers for pupils/students to carry a mobile phone to assist with safe journeys to and from school.

2 Mobile Phone Acceptable Use Policy

- 2.1 It is our policy to allow pupils/students to have a mobile phone with them in school, should they choose to do so, under the conditions outlined below:
 - a) Phones must not be used for any purpose (e.g. phoning, texting, surfing the internet, taking photos, checking the time, taking videos) between the hours of 8.15 am and 4.30 pm unless pupils are given specific permission to do so by a member of staff.
 - b) Any pupil/student bringing a mobile phone or any other form of mobile technology onto the school premises must have a signed Home-School agreement on file in school which indicates agreement with this policy and the Acceptable Use Policy.
 - c) Phones must always be switched off (not on silent mode) and kept out of view unless pupils are given specific permission to use the phone by a member of staff.
 - d) Sixth Form students may use mobile phones for the sole purpose of assisting independent study whilst in the Sixth Form Centre during a free period.
 - e) If a pupil/student breaches these rules the phone will be confiscated and given in to the main office. It will be returned to the pupil/student on receipt of a letter from parents/carers. Where appropriate, further sanctions will be applied, in line with the School's Behaviour and Exclusions Policy.
 - f) Phones must not be taken into examinations.
'Mobile phones, electronic communication or storage devices such as iPods, MP3/4 players, reading pens, wrist watches that have storage devices and any other products with text or digital facilities are not permitted.' (Joint Council for Qualifications statement 2012)

3 Emergencies

- 3.1 If a pupil or student needs to contact his/her parents/carers they will be allowed to use a school phone.
- 3.2 If parents/carers need to contact pupils/students urgently they should phone the school office and a message will be relayed promptly.

4 Security for mobile phones and other valuables

- 4.1 The School cannot accept any responsibility for theft, loss, damage or health effects (potential or actual) relating to mobile devices, nor for theft, loss or damage to any other valuable item, nor for the theft or loss of any money.

- 4.2 It is the responsibility of parents/carers and pupils/students to ensure mobile phones and other valuables are insured.
- 4.3 Pupils should either hand their phone into the School Office or to a member of the Physical Education staff or use their lockers to secure all valuables during Physical Education lessons.