

Mobile Phone Policy

Date:	November 2022
Revision:	D
Author/Responsible:	Headteacher
Trustee Sub-Committee Approval:	November 2022
Board of Trustees – ratification:	November 2022
Review:	Annually

CONTENTS

1. Policy



Mobile Phone Policy

Mobile phones are now a feature of modern society and most of our students own one. Increasing sophistication of mobile phone technology presents a number of issues for schools:

- The high value of many mobile phones.
- The integration of cameras/recording facilities onto phones leading to potential Child Protection and Data Protection issues.
- The potential to use the phone for example, for texting whilst on silent mode.
- Cyber-bullying.

It is not realistic to prohibit phones being brought to school so it is our policy to allow students to have a mobile phone with them in school under the conditions outlined below:-

1. Students may bring mobile phones into school but they must be switched off (not in silent mode) and only used in an emergency.
2. Many mobile phones have built in cameras/recording facilities and these are particularly unacceptable when used in a school environment. The use of such technology may lead to a **suspension** of the student concerned.
3. If a student breached these rules, their phone will be confiscated and taken to the main office (Reception):
 - 3.1. The first time this happens the student will be able to collect their phone at 3.00pm.
 - 3.2. The second time this happens, the student will only have their phone returned on receipt of a letter/**following a phone call** from their parent/carer, giving their permission for the phone to be returned.
 - 3.3. The third time this happens, when the mobile is confiscated, it will only be returned to the parent/carer of the student.
4. Persistent confiscations will result in further sanctions, as it will then be classed as persistent defiance.

Emergencies

If a student needs to contact his/her parent/carer urgently, he/she will be allowed to use a school telephone. If parents/carers need to contact children urgently they should phone school reception (01652 648 276) and a message will be relayed as soon as practicably possible.

Responsibility for Mobile Phones

Huntcliff School does not accept any responsibility whatsoever for theft, loss, damage or health effects relating to mobile phones. It is the responsibility of parents/carers and students to ensure that their mobile phones are adequately insured.