



Pupil Mobile Phone Use

Implementation Date – March 2023

Review Date – March 2026

Pupil Mobile Phone Acceptable Use

We recognise that mobile phones and other internet-enabled devices are part of everyday life for many children and that they can play an important role in helping pupils to feel safe and secure.

However, mobile devices are capable of more than simply helping a child get in touch with parents at the end of the day. Therefore, it is incumbent upon parents to understand the capabilities of the phone/device and the potential use and misuse of those capabilities.

Whitchurch Federation discourages children from bringing mobile phones to school if at all possible and other internet enabled devices are not permitted, due to the potential negative issues that may arise, for example:

- Mobile devices may be lost, stolen or damaged
- Mobile devices can prove a distraction to teaching and learning in school
- They may provide a means of bullying or intimidating others
- There are risks associated with sharing images and with posting digital images on the internet. Those images may remain available on the internet forever and may cause harm or embarrassment to individuals in the short or longer term.

Use of Mobile Phones/Devices

If it is absolutely necessary for a child to bring a mobile phone to school then the following need to be understood and followed:

Whitchurch Federation accepts no liability for any loss or damage to mobile phones which are brought in to school or the school grounds.

The phone must be switched off on entering onto school premises and remain switched off throughout the school day and be handed to the class teacher at the start of the day to be locked away thus reducing any negative issues which may arise, phones will then be handed back at the end of the day.

Mobile phones used on the school premises by a child, will be confiscated and kept in the school office, whereby a call will be made home and the child may then collect the phone at the end of the day with a parent.

If a pupil is found taking photographs or video footage with a mobile phone of either pupils or staff, this will be regarded as a serious offence and disciplinary action will be taken according to our Behaviour Policy

Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed every three years. Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all members of staff and parents.