



Selkirk High School Mobile Phone Policy



Rationale

There is an emerging body of evidence that the misuse and overuse of mobile phones not only affects pupils' achievements in school, it can also contribute negatively to mental health.

With the introduction of iPads at Selkirk High School it is clear that mobiles no longer have a useful role in the classroom. It is also clear that the overuse or inappropriate use of mobile phones is increasingly a factor in academic underperformance and in health and wellbeing concerns. It has therefore been decided to update the school's policy on use of mobile phones in order to ensure all pupils are Ready, Respectful and Safe, in line with our 3 school expectations.

However, it is also recognised that a students' possession of a mobile phone can be of great help at certain times to parents and guardians.

Appropriate Use of Mobile Phones

- We recommend that students do not bring mobile phones to school.
- If parents wish their child to have a mobile phone in school, it should be switched off and in bags or lockers during class and study time and when moving between lessons.
- Phones may only be used at interval and at lunchtime.
- The phone's camera, audio recording and filming functions should not be used in school. Pupils must not, under any circumstances, take photos/videos of other students or staff without their permission.
- Permission to use a phone's camera at school functions or on school trips should be confirmed with the member of staff leading the activity. Where permission is granted, the images obtained should not be uploaded to social networking or other internet sites.
- Parents wishing to contact students during the school day should telephone the school office (01750 720246) and ask for a message to be relayed.

Dealing with Inappropriate Use

- If a pupil has their phone out in class/corridor they will be asked to put it in a bag or locker. If the pupil continues to use their phone in class, they will be asked to place it at the front of the class until the end of the period.
- If a pupil continually misuses their phone then concerns will be raised with the student's pastoral teacher who will arrange for it to be handed in to the school office at the beginning of the day and picked up at the end of the day. Parents/carers will be contacted to confirm this arrangement.
- If a pupil refuses to hand in their phone, parent/carers will be contacted and the school will request that the phone is not brought in to school.
- Parents and Pupils should be aware that the sending, sharing and also receiving of indecent images or offensive messages may result in police involvement. Should a student be aware of inappropriate content on any device, they should report it immediately to their pastoral teacher.

Responsibility for Mobile Phones

As with all high value items the school is aware of the potential for damage or loss of phones. While we will make every possible effort to track lost or misplaced mobile phones the school does not accept responsibility for replacement/repairs of mobile phones.