



Meole Brace School

Achievement · Respect · Community

Mobile Phones: Acceptable Use Policy

Senior member of staff responsible: Mr A Doust

Revised: April 2023

Next Review Date: April 2025



Mobile Phones¹: Acceptable Use Policy

Students, their parents or carers must read the policy and understand the acceptable use policy as a condition upon which permission is given to bring mobile phones to school.

1. Responsibility

- The decision to provide a mobile phone to their children should be made by parents or carers. It is incumbent upon parents to understand the capabilities of the phone and the potential use/misuse of those capabilities.
- Parents/carers should be aware that if their child takes a mobile phone to school, the school cannot accept responsibility for any loss, damage or costs incurred.
- Parents/carers are reminded that in case of emergency, Reception remains the first point of contact; we will endeavour to ensure your child is contacted quickly and assisted in the relevant way.

1. Acceptable Uses

- The school recognises the importance of emerging technologies present in mobile phones. Teachers may wish to utilise these functions to aid teaching and learning and students may have the opportunity to use these, but only at the direct instruction of the class teacher.
- Mobile phones (and associated paraphernalia e.g. headphones, chargers) should be switched off and kept out of sight in bags/lockers at all times from 8.45 (first bell) to the end of the school day, and at all times when inside a school building. They should not be seen or heard at any time within these times/places. Staff may give permission for students to check their phones at the end of period 5.
- Mobile phones may be used at the end of the school day once students have left school buildings to pick messages, etc. For those attending after school clubs and study classes, the use of mobile phones will be at the discretion of the member of staff.

2. Unacceptable Uses

- Unless express permission is granted, mobile phones should not be used to make calls, send messages, internet usage, take photos, check the time, check timetables or any other associated application.
- Using mobiles to bully and threaten is unacceptable. Cyber bullying will not be tolerated. In some cases, it can constitute criminal behaviour.
- Listening to music through headphones is not allowed.
- Mobile phones are banned from all examinations.

3. Sanctions

- Students who infringe the rules will have their phone confiscated; it will be sent to reception for safe keeping and students will be able to collect it at the end of the school day.
- For persistent offences (three times in a half term) the mobile phone will **only be handed over to parents/carers in person**. Parents/carers will be able to collect the mobile phone from reception at the end of the school day.
- Students arguing with any member of staff over a mobile phone infringement or refusing to hand over their device will be dealt with very seriously because they are failing to comply with school rules.
- Those that show they are not able to abide by this policy will not be allowed to bring their mobile phones to school.

1. The term 'Mobile Phone' also includes headphones, IPOD, IPAD, Tablets, MP3, MP4 and all portable electronic devices.