

Over recent years there has been a huge culture shift regarding mobile phones, especially smart phones. They are used by the general public as a useful tool for much more than just making phone calls. However, we consider the risks to students' wellbeing and to maintaining good order within the school far outweigh the benefits.

Students are not permitted to use mobile phones anywhere on the school site. They must be turned **off** and all mobile devices **or any attached equipment** must not be visible or audible at any time during school hours.

Our reasons for this include:

- The potential disruption caused to lessons by phones ringing or receiving texts
- The dangers of mobile phone use for bullying purposes
- The infringement of privacy caused by students taking photos of other students or staff without their permission
- The dangers associated with unmonitored access to the internet, during school time, via smart phones or devices
- Students contacting home, without the knowledge of the school regarding issues that arise during the school day

## Proposal

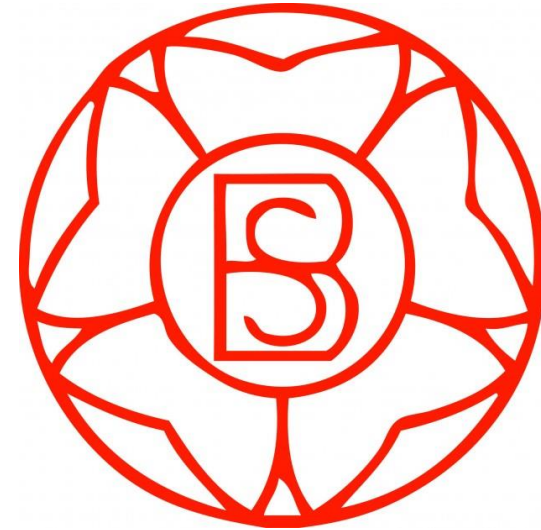
- Students can use their mobile phones whilst travelling to or from school. They can access the internet, listen to music through headphones and play games.
- All phones and other mobile devices must be switched off during the school day and be placed in school bags, or can be kept in the main office at the students own risk.
- Students must not use their phones whilst walking around school at any time of the day.
- Students cannot use a mobile phone in an exam – even as a calculator (as per exam board regulations). Mobile phones are collected by exam invigilators prior to every public exam and are kept safely locked away until the exam finishes. Pupils must always hand their phone in during an exam or leave it at home.
- Students must NEVER take photos or film in or out of the classroom on a personal phone (it is a criminal offence and will be dealt with severely)
- Students must not use their mobile phones whilst on a school trip. However, phones can be taken on an overnight residential and used with the permission of the trip leader.

## Contact with parents/carers

- If a student is ill they MUST see a member of the Senior Leadership Team. The only way any arrangement with home can take place is through the school.
- Students cannot phone home from their mobile and arrange to go home. The school will allow students to use the school phone system for urgent calls home.

- Neither should parents contact students directly to arrange to pick them up. Urgent messages from home will also be passed on immediately by the school office.

If at any point a student misuses their phone or refuses to follow the above rules, the member of staff can confiscate the phone. It will be placed in the school office to be picked up by a parent/carer.



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- ❖ I have read the information above and agree to obey the proposal.
  - ❖ I also understand that the school takes no responsibility for any phone or device that is lost or stolen on the school site.

Signed: (Student) ..... Date: .....

Signed: (Parent)..... Date: .....

## **Broadfield Specialist School**

### **Mobile Phone Policy**