



Policy for Use of Mobile Phones in School

Petersfield Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Version	Final
Policy Type	Standards
Discussed by staff	Sept 17
Approved by the Headteachers	May 2017
Adopted by the FGB	June 17
Next Review	May 2020

Petersfield School recognises that parents may wish their children to have mobile phones for use in cases of emergency. However, mobiles can be used inappropriately and are potentially targets for theft and bullying. The Governing Body has, therefore, adopted the following policy which will be rigorously enforced.

- Mobile phones should not be generally used on school premises and if a pupil has a phone, it should be kept in the school office, it should be switched off and out of sight.
- Members of staff should keep phones locked away, in a drawer or bag and should only be looked at or used during break times without the permission of the Headteachers.
- In very unusual circumstances, such as a family emergency, pupils should seek staff permission to use their phone.
- Pupils who ignore this policy and use a mobile on school premises without permission will be required to hand over their phone to a member of staff and parents will be asked to collect it subsequently from the school office.
- If a member of the staff of the school has any suspicion that a mobile phone has unsuitable material stored on it, pupils will be required to hand over the phone to a member of staff and parents will be asked to collect it from a senior member of staff. In circumstances where there is a suspicion that the material on the mobile may provide evidence relating to a criminal offence the phone will be handed over to the police for further investigation¹. Parents will need to recover the phone from the police in such circumstances.
- Pupils are strongly discouraged from bringing camera phones into school because of their higher value.

¹ There has been a recent court case where a person has received a custodial sentence for showing someone a video on a mobile phone, which caused them distress. Parents and students should be aware that such incidents are likely to be treated seriously by the courts.

- Pupils remain responsible for their own property and will bear the responsibility of any losses.

Any failure to comply with the above guidelines may result in normal disciplinary action to be taken up to and including the consideration of permanent exclusion of the student concerned.

The camera on the phone must never be used by a child to take photographs or video of another child which is then published on the internet (especially a Social Networking site)

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Parents and adults in school should not use their phones and must not take images of any pupils.

Where parents are watching an assembly or production and permission is given by the teacher in charge, images can be taken as long as the responsible person taking the images has signed the consent form or a form declaring the images are for personal use and will not be shared on social networking sites.

Links with other Policies

Other policies are closely linked to Use of mobile phone in School Policy use Eg.

Safeguarding

Policy , Behaviour Policy, Adult behaviour in school policy.

Full consideration has been given to Equality, inclusion and Safeguarding (child protection) in the preparation of this policy.