

Mobile phones

We recognise that mobile phones are part of modern life and students need to learn to use and manage them appropriately. However, we are also aware of the impact on mental health if anyone becomes over-dependent on their phone and of the obvious potential mobile phones have to disrupt learning.

As with any valuable items, students bring mobile phones to school at their own risk.

Unlike some other schools, we do not have a ban on mobile phones. However, this is dependent on students using their phones responsibly and meeting our expectations:

- Phones should be left with the teacher if students leave a lesson to go to the toilet, etc.
- Students can only use phones at break or lunchtimes – in the canteen, mall, outside the building and in classrooms (if supervised)
- Phones should only be used in lesson if it is for an educational purpose as directed by the class teacher
- Phones should not be used/out between lessons – this will also help with ensuring that students arrive to lessons on time

Students who do not meet these expectations will risk having their phone confiscated. If they hand over their phone when asked, without discussion, it will be returned at the end of the day. Students who do not do this risk having their phone confiscated for a longer period of time. In some cases, we may not return the phone to the student, but ask their parent or carer to collect it for them.

Students in isolation are not allowed mobile phones and are expected to hand them in for safe-keeping. Students in detentions may also be asked to hand in their mobile phones.

We also expect students to use their phones appropriately (see Student ICT Acceptable Use Agreement) – those who do not may lose the privilege of being allowed to bring their phone to school

The rules about mobile phones apply to all students, including Y12 and Y13.

We also ask that parents and carers do not phone their child during the school day. If you have an urgent message which needs to be passed on, this can be done through the school office.