

# The Snaith School



## Mobile Device Policy

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# Mobile Device Policy

## Introduction

The Snaith School has established this policy for mobile devices that provides members of staff, students and parents/carers with guidelines and instructions for the appropriate use of mobile devices in school.

## Rationale

The Snaith School is keen to embrace Technology that supports and enhances learning. We have invested heavily in the ICT infrastructure and in upgrading equipment. We have an ongoing maintenance programme which sees devices upgraded regularly to ensure ICT is used to help students progress.

As a school we are aware of the concerns regarding the impact that mobile phones can have on student mental health and well-being. Recent research highlights the various risks to young people brought about by the extensive use of mobile devices. The school would therefore like to protect students from these risks, helping to ensure that they remain focused and engaged with their school work, as well as developing effective relationships with their peers and with school staff. The school therefore will continue with its stance of prohibiting the use of mobile phones and all similar communication technology.

The Snaith School accepts that parents and carers may choose to give their children mobile devices to protect them from everyday risks involving personal security and safety. There is also some concern about children travelling alone on public transport or commuting long distances to school. For this reason, the policy does not extend to student travelling to and from school.

## Definition

Mobile and hand-held devices will be referred to as mobile devices, this include: mobile phones, audio/music devices, headphones, video devices, gaming devices, mobile computers, smart watches and air tags or similar devices.

## Responsibility

It is the responsibility of students who bring mobile devices to school to ensure that they are switched off and remain in their bag whilst they are on the school grounds and to fully abide by the guidelines laid out in this policy.

The decision to provide a mobile device to children should be made by parents and carers and they should be aware if their child intends to take a mobile device to school.

## Acceptable Use

Before entering the school grounds, students must turn off their mobile device and place them out of sight, in their school bag for the duration of the day. Mobile devices under no circumstances should be kept in any other place other than the school bag. Mobile phones should not be placed in blazer or trouser pockets. Mobile devices should not be turned back on until students have they have **left** the school site either on foot or by school transport.

Students must not use their mobile device to make calls, send messages, listen to music, check the time, take or send pictures or access the internet at any time during the school day.

If a mobile device is not switched off and then subsequently disturbs a lesson, then the student will receive a sanction in line with the behaviour for learning policy. If a student leaves the lesson to go to the toilet, they will be expected to place their mobile device (switched off) on the member of staff's desk until they return from the toilet, when the mobile device should be returned to their bag.

In exceptional circumstances only, agreed by the school in advance, mobile devices may be left at school reception at the start of the day by parental request. For emergency reasons parents and carers are reminded that the first point of contact for your child in an emergency should be school reception, which can ensure that your child is reached quickly and assisted appropriately.

We recognise that students have a variety of needs and have procedures in place if a student needs to contact a parent or carer. Reasonable adjustments are often made, these do not include a student using their mobile phone to contact a parent or carer directly without the knowledge of a member of staff. If a student does not follow the correct procedures, the behaviour for learning policy will be applied.

Students who become ill during the day must not use their mobile phone to contact parents or carers; they should use the established procedure via the medical room. If this situation does arise, it will be dealt with in accordance with our behaviour policy.

### **Theft, damage or loss**

Mobile devices that are found in the school and whose owner cannot be located should be handed into school reception. The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile devices.

### **Sanctions**

The following sanctions will be used to support the school's mobile device policy. All incidents will be recorded via the student planner/centrally.

Where a student has breached the policy

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Action/Sanction</b>
Mobile device visible in school, for example in the pocket of trousers or blazer	The device will be confiscated, the student will receive a written warning in their planner. The device will be returned at the end of the school day.
Mobile device or being used by a student on school site, including the beginning of the school day Ear phones/buds visible E.g. a student wearing these, indicates that they are connected to a device and are being used.	The device will be confiscated, the student will receive a 60 minute after school detention. The device will be returned at the end of the school day.
Mobile device being used at the end of the school day on the school site	Students will be instructed to put the device in their bag, they will receive a 60 minute after school detention.

Repeated offences (Trigger 4 times)	Parents and carers will be invited into school to discuss a ban of the student carrying a mobile device for the remainder of the term.
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