



Durrington High School

Student Mobile Phone & Device use Policy

Applies to: All students	Author: Chris Woodcock	Date: December 2025
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1. Purpose

This policy supports a calm, focused and safe learning environment for all, enabling students to engage fully in their learning without distraction. It promotes pro-social non-screen-based interaction with each other and supports our wider focus on safeguarding all students.

2. Expectations

Mobile devices (and other connected devices including headphones) must not be seen, heard or accessed from the point at which the students enter the school building in the morning until the end of the school day at 3.10pm

This includes devices not being used, seen or heard:

- In classrooms, corridors, social spaces and outdoor areas
- At breaktimes, lunchtimes and during transitions between lessons
- In toilet and changing room areas

Students are required to switch off their device(s) storing them out of sight for the duration of the school day.

3. Acceptable use & reasonable adjustments to our approach

Mobile phones may only be used:

- Before entering the school building in the morning
- After 3.10pm once the final bell has gone, or
- When explicit permission has been granted by an adult in school. Examples reasons that may qualify for permission include
 - Personal medical needs (e.g. monitoring apps for blood sugar)
 - SEND or accessibility requirements (EAL students being supported to translate key information from resources during lesson time)
 - KS4 students logging in/on to school apps/drives (under the direct supervision of a member of staff)

4. Sanctions for breaches of this policy

If a phone is seen or used during the school day:

1. **First breach:** Phone confiscated until end of day. The individual receives a signature on their expectations card.
2. **Repeated breaches:** Phone confiscated; further signature(s) on expectations and house detention issued.
3. **Persistent refusal or repeated misuse** will result in senior leader intervention and further sanctions especially in the case of mobile device use causing harm to the individual, others or the smooth running of the school. Sanctions are made by the school and could include
 - a. A period of daily phone confiscation (days during which the student must hand in their phone at the start of each day and collect it at the end of school hours, or
 - b. The device may be confiscated until a parent/carer collects it from school.

Students who refuse to hand over a device will be managed in line with the school's behaviour policy. There remains an expectation that all students, at all times, will comply with instructions issued by adults.

5. Safeguarding and privacy

- The policy reduces risks linked to online harm, filming, bullying and inappropriate content.
- Staff will not access personal content on student devices unless safeguarding concerns require this and leadership authorisation is given.
- If a device(s) is confiscated, they will be stored by a member of staff until the stated point of collection by the student or parent/carer.

6. Communication with home

It is not appropriate or necessary for students to use their device to contact parents/carers (or their peers) during the school day. If contact home is needed this can be facilitated by school staff. If a parent needs to get urgent information to their child this should be done via an adult in school. Parents/carers are requested not to contact their child directly (e.g. via message or phone call). This is likely to cause increased worry/concern for the child and undermines school expectations.

Should a parent/carer wish to make a request in relation to their child and their need to use a mobile device during school hours this should be directed via their house leader in the first instance.

7. Responsibility

Students are responsible for the safe storage of any devices that they bring onto the school site during the school day. The school (and individual staff) are not liable for any loss of, or damage to, confiscated devices.

8. Reference points

[Mobile phones in schools - GOV.UK](#)