



# Shebbear College

## PUPIL MOBILE PHONE POLICY

### Whole School Policy from EYFS to Sixth Form

**Reviewed and ratified by the Governing Body on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

**Next Review by 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

#### **Rationale**

Mobile phones are a feature of modern society and most of our pupils own one and their parents wish for them to have phones for use in cases of emergency when travelling to and from school.

Increasing sophistication of mobile phone technology presents a number of issues for schools:

- The high value of many phones.
- The integration of cameras into phones leading to potential child protection and data protection issues.
- The potential to use the phone e.g. for texting whilst on silent mode.
- The potential for bullying by mobile phone.
- Unrestricted access to the internet.

It is not realistic to prohibit phones being brought to school, nor is it logistically possible for the school to collect phones in each morning and return them in the afternoon. It is our policy to allow pupils to have a mobile phone with them in school under the conditions outlined in the policy below.

## **Terms of use**

1. Phones must not be used for any purpose (eg phoning, texting, checking of time, using a calculator, surfing the internet, taking photos, taking videos) between the hours of 8.45 am and 4.45 pm unless instructed to do so by a member of staff.
2. Phones must always be switched off (not on silent mode) and kept out of view except when instructed by a member of staff
3. Phones must not be taken into examinations.
4. In the case of trips, visits, exchanges and other off-site activities, their use is not allowed unless specifically permitted by the teacher in charge.
5. Phones maybe used in lessons with Staff permission, such lessons may include ICT, Music etc where the versatility of a phone is of educational value.
6. If a pupil breaches these rules the phone will be confiscated and given to the pupils' Head of School who will arrange a point and time for collection.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's other policies in particular the Anti-Bullying Policy.

## **Emergencies**

If a pupil needs to contact his/her parents/guardians they will be allowed to use their mobile phone, and must seek permission from a member of staff. If they do not have one, they may phone from the front office.

If parents need to contact children in a real emergency (not for such things as forgotten lunch boxes or pick up arrangements), they should phone the school office and a message will be relayed promptly.

Responsibility for mobile phones:

The school accepts no responsibility whatsoever for theft, loss, damage or health effects (potential or actual) relating to mobile phones.