



LORD LAWSON OF BEAMISH ACADEMY

MOBILE DEVICE POLICY

Originator: Andrew Fowler

Revision: 003

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Date of next review: May 2024



Mobile Device Policy

Introduction

This policy sets out the Academy's framework for determining 'acceptable' and 'unacceptable' use of mobile devices by students whilst on site at Lord Lawson of Beamish Academy.

The purpose of the policy is to prevent unacceptable use of mobile devices. These are defined as mobile phones, camera phones, headphones, smart watches, MP3 players, IPADS and all other portable electronic devices. The aim is to protect students and staff from undesirable materials, filming, intimidation or harassment, and also to allow learning not to be interrupted by mobile devices.

The Policy

- We strongly advise that mobile devices should not be brought into the Academy at all
- We accept that there may be particular circumstances in which a parent/carer wishes their child to have access to a mobile phone for their journey to and from the Academy
- Where a mobile device is brought on site, it is entirely at the student's and parents' own risk. The Academy **accepts no responsibility for any loss**, theft or damage to any phone or device which is brought on site
- Mobile devices that are brought on site must be turned off and stored out of sight immediately the student arrives at the inner gate (known to students as the 'late gate'), or the back gate. Mobile devices must remain turned off and out of sight until students exit the inner gate or back gate at the end of the day
- Mobile devices cannot be used in lessons (except under the direction of a member of staff), lesson change over, break or lunchtimes
- If a member of staff sees a student using a mobile device, the member of staff will confiscate it immediately. The mobile device will be taken to the general office for safe storage
- If a mobile device is confiscated, it will be recorded on the behaviour log, to ensure consequences given by staff are fair and consistent. Should a student refuse to give up their device, the Academy's usual behaviour policy will be followed
- There may be individual exceptions, e.g. devices for medical use, which must be agreed with the Principal.

Collection of Confiscated Devices

- First confiscation in a half term – parent/carer informed via text message sent by reception staff. Student to collect from reception at 3:15pm.
- Second confiscation in a half term – parent/carer informed via text message by reception staff. Parent/carer will be required to collect the mobile device from the Academy.
- Third confiscation in a half term – parent/carer will need to attend a meeting on site with a member of year base staff and collect the mobile device.
- The 'slate' will be wiped clean at the start of each half term.



**The office hours for collection are as follows: Monday - Thursday 3:15 - 4:15pm;
Friday 3:15 – 3:45pm**

Sixth form students are permitted to use mobile devices in the Independent Learning Centre and Common Room, but not in corridors or lessons, except under the direction of members of staff.