



Pupil Mobile Phone Policy

This document has been approved for operation by	Kathryn Towers
Date of last review	September 2022
Date of next review	July 2023
Review period	1 Year
Status	Statutory
Owner	Tower Learning Centre Independent School
Version	1

Rationale

Mobile phones are now a feature of modern society and most of our pupils own one. Increasing sophistication of mobile phone technology presents a number of issues for schools:

The high value of many phones

The integration of cameras and internet browsing 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

It is not realistic to prohibit phones being brought to school, nor is it logistically possible for schools 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.

- Pupils are requested to keep their mobile phones on silent and out of sight for the duration of their time at Tower Learning Centre Independent School.
- Phones and other digital equipment must not be used for any purpose (e.g. phoning, texting, surfing the internet, listening to music, taking photos, taking videos) inside the school building during registration, in lessons or in between lessons.
- They can be used INSIDE or OUTSIDE the school building before 9.30am, at break time (10:45-11:00am) and lunch time (12:10-12.50pm, and after 3pm).

If a pupil breaches these rules then they will be subject to warnings as outlined in the schools behaviour policy.

Pupils who refuse to adhere persistently to this policy will be in serious breach of the behaviour policy and will be internally excluded from school for a day.

Phones must not be taken into examinations.

Emergencies

If a pupil needs to contact his/her parents/guardians, they will be allowed to use a school phone. If parents need to contact children urgently 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 or other digital equipment in the possession of pupils and will not undertake any related investigation. It is the responsibility of parents and pupils to ensure mobile phones and other digital equipment are properly insured.