

Mobile Phones &

Other Electronic Devices

September 2021

Review date: September 2022

**Policy on the Use of Mobile Phones & Other Electronic Devices**

**Rationale and background**

At Chadwick High School we appreciate the importance that mobile phones and electronic devices have in today’s society. However, their use cannot be a distraction to the day to day running of the school.

Our policy is designed to allow students to have their electronic devices before and after school, but not to be accessed during the school day.

This will be of benefit to all members of the school:

* Students will not be distracted by calls, texts and updates throughout the day.
* Lessons will not be disturbed by mobile phones making noises or students checking mobile phones or even checking the time.
* Students who are being victimised by social media will have respite from their mobile phones as they are not allowed to access it.
* Students who are involved in the harassment of others via social media will not be able to contribute.

Some parents and students are concerned that they need their mobile phone for emergency use. If there is an emergency the best way to manage it is to contact the school directly. Calling students whilst in class to tell them something important is in hindsight not the best way to share information in our experience.

**Our policy on contacting students is that it is done through the school office. We will then be able to allow you to speak to your child in a private and secure setting as soon as possible.**

There will be sanctions for the use of mobile phones and electronic devices and these will be appropriate to the way in which the mobile phone has been used.

In the most severe cases we will use:

* Isolation in BASE
* Detentions
* Fixed term exclusions
* Permanent exclusion or withdrawal of school place

Examples of these types of behaviour include:

* Contributing to bullying on social media – Mobile Phone ban possible exclusion
* Taking of pupil images – Mobile Phone ban and possible exclusion
* Taking staff images – Mobile Phone ban and exclusion
* Sharing images of staff or students – Exclusion (possibly permanent)
* Recording staff and students – Exclusion (possibly permanent)
* Live streaming – Exclusion (possibly permanent)

**Policy**

* Students are not permitted to use mobile phones or electronic devices whilst on school premises or when off site during the school day ie PE or school trip.
* Students are expected to hand their mobile phones in at the start of the school day along with their other belongings. They will collect their mobile phone and belongings at the end of the day.
* The only exception to this policy will be at lunchtime when students may be able to n use their mobile phones in an appropriate way within the guidance of this policy, under the supervision of staff.
* The penalty for taking a mobile phone/electronic device out on public display will be that the mobile phone/electronic device will be confiscated and placed in a secure hold within the school office. The mobile phone/electronic device can then be collected at the end of the school day.
* Any student who refuses to hand over their mobile phone/electronic device or is abusive or obstructive will be dealt with in a manner appropriate to their behaviour.
* Serious breaches of school discipline in regards to the use of mobile phones will be dealt with as detailed.
* Parents wishing to make contact with children must contact the office and not the student directly.