

## Mobile Phones

At RHS we are keen that students should be able to make use of the capacity of mobile technology, including mobile phones, to enhance learning. Smart phones are useful for researching and recording learning giving access to a far wider range of resources than would be provided by a text book and enabling practical work to be capture and analysed.

We are aware of the need for many students to carry mobile phones for reasons of personal safety and practicality while travelling to and from school. We are also conscious of the possible dangers and problems that can arise from the use of mobile phones in school such as:

- bullying
- possession or transmission of inappropriate/unlawful images
- filming of individuals without their permission
- distraction in the classroom and in social areas
- accessing inappropriate websites on the internet

We value face to face conversation. We want students to be free to enjoy each others' company, to play games and to pursue a broad range of interests and activities while they are in school. For the reasons mentioned above, the use of phones by students is restricted.

Mobile phones must be kept out of sight and switched off while on school premises (this includes break times) unless a student has been given permission by her teacher to use her phone for learning. Students may use their phones if their teacher asks them to do so to conduct research or to record their work.

The purpose of recording work using digital imagery is to record progress and develop skills (including self-evaluation and reflection). Students may take images of other students in the group provided they have the consent of all group members and the image is part of a record of their learning. Photographs and videos may be uploaded to Frog and shared internally within the school but may not be externally published or placed on external sites such as YouTube, Facebook etc. without the consent of all those involved, including the teacher.

Students will be able to connect to the internet via school's wireless network. They will not be able to access other parts of the school network. Students are expected to behave responsibly and to consider their own safety when online. Students who act irresponsibly or without consideration for others online will not be allowed to use their phones in school. The length of the ban will depend on the gravity of the behaviour.

Students risk having their phone confiscated for the rest of the day if it disrupts the learning of others (e.g. by ringing beeping etc) or if they use it inappropriately e.g. in a public place (unless they are in the Sixth Form Common Room), outside of lessons (except at the beginning and end of the school day). Confiscated phones will be handed into the school office. A record will be kept of confiscations. Students who repeatedly have their phones confiscated will be asked to hand them into the office at the start of the school day and collect them at the end.

The school will not take responsibility for mobile phones that are stolen or disappear on school premises. In emergencies, parents and students can contact each other through the school

office. It is essential that all emergency information be routed through the school office, so that relevant staff will be aware of [any potentially important information](#).

**Please Note**

- Students are expected to treat other members of the school community with care and respect at all times. This includes when using digital technology.
- Parents need to be aware that some insurance companies may not cover loss or damage to mobile phones in schools.
- Mobile phones must not be used to contact parents if the student feels unwell. Students should go to Reception, where a member of the office staff will contact parents if necessary.
- Mobile phones are not allowed in examination rooms. Any student found in possession of a mobile phone in an examination room will be disqualified from that examination and may be barred from sitting future examinations.