



John Blow Primary School

MOBILE PHONE POLICY - PUPILS

Created by: Ben Carver

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INTRODUCTION AND AIMS

At John Blow Primary School, the welfare and well-being of our pupils is paramount. The aim of the Mobile Phone Policy is to allow users to benefit from modern communication technologies, whilst promoting safe and appropriate practice through establishing clear and robust acceptable mobile user guidelines. This is achieved through balancing protection against possible misuse with the recognition that mobile phones are effective communication tools. It is recognised that it is the enhanced functions of many mobile phones that cause the most concern, offering distractions and disruptions to the working day, and which are most susceptible to misuse – including the taking and distribution of indecent images, exploitation and bullying. However, as it is difficult to detect specific usage, this policy refers to ALL mobile communication devices.

We recognise that in Year 6, mobile phones may have a part to play in securing pupils' personal safety before and after school and on journeys to and from school. Our expectation is that in all other year groups pupils will be collected by an adult or other responsible person. Under no circumstances will pupils be allowed to take mobile phones on school excursions.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all individual pupils who have access to personal mobile phones.

This guidance should be seen as a safeguard for members of the John Blow community. Pupils should understand that failure to comply with the policy is likely to result in the enforcement of the school's Anti-Bullying Policy and Behaviour and Relationships Policy and associated procedures.

This policy should also be read in relation to the following documentation:

- Child Protection Policy
- Behaviour and Relationships Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy

Personal Mobiles – Pupils

Parents of children in Year 6 will need to complete the permission form (Appendix 1) and hand it to the office. With consideration to this, it is made clear to parents that where they have given permission for their child to bring a mobile phone to school they do so entirely at their own risk. The school accepts no responsibility for any loss or damage whilst the device is on school premises.

Where a pupil does bring a mobile phone to school, the phone must remain switched off during the school day and may not be used for any purpose on school premises or during off-site school activities (such as swimming or sports). The term 'on site, out of sight' will be used with children to remind them of this responsibility. The phone must be put in the mobile phone box in the school office to be stored for the day. Phones will be collected from the office at the end of the day. Under no circumstances should there be access to phones during the school day nor should phones be left in pupils' bags or coats.

Should a pupil be found to be using their phone inappropriately, the school reserves the right to withdraw this privilege and they may no longer be able to bring a phone into school.

Inappropriate use of a Mobile Phone

If a pupil is found taking photographs or video footage with a mobile phone of either pupils or staff, this will be regarded as a serious offence and a member of the Senior Management Team should be involved from the outset. If images of other pupils or teachers have been taken, the phone will not be returned to the pupil until the images have been deleted. The parent/guardian will be contacted by a member of the senior leadership team (SLT).

In the rare circumstance that there is evidence of harassment and/or bullying, the phone or digital device should be confiscated, retained in a secure place by an appropriate member of staff, taking care not to delete any images or recordings which could be used as evidence. Accurate records of any incidents should be given to the SLT to be logged on CPOMS.



Mobile Phone Parental Consent Form

Dear Parent/Carer,

In accordance with our mobile phone policy, if your child is bringing in a mobile phone to school on a regular basis, please could you sign the form below to give your permission for your child to do this and remind them of our school policy.

- Your children need to turn their phone off on arrival at the school site and hand their phone in to the school office.
- The school bears no responsibility for the loss or damage to a mobile phone.
- Your child's phone should be appropriately marked so that they can recognise it.
- Should your child be found using their phone inappropriately, the school reserves the right to withdraw this privilege and they may no longer be able to bring their phone into school.

We also ask that parents talk to their children about the appropriate use of messaging mobile phones and that their usage is closely monitored, as they can be used to bully or harass pupils.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Ben Carver
Headteacher

MOBILE PHONE CONSENT

I/We give permission for our child (name)to bring their mobile phone into school.

We have read the policy and understand its implications.

Signed..... please print name

Date

PLEASE RETURN THIS PERMISSION SLIP TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE. THANK YOU.