



The Joseph Whitaker School

An Academy specialising in Sport and Performing Arts

2025-26

Mobile Phone Policy

Mobile Phone Policy

Students who wish to bring a mobile phone into school may do so, **however they must abide by the following:**

Any mobile phone (or other device which can receive/send text messages, including smart watches) must be switched off and in school bags at all times whilst students are on the school site. Devices seen, or heard, (including those in pockets) will be confiscated.

As a consequence of the updated Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024 guidance paragraph 138 (see below) mobile phones and personal headphones (of any type) **cannot be used, in school, during the school day.**

Note – we understand that a very small number of students use their devices to monitor their health conditions (these students will be permitted access to their devices as required).

- 6th Formers are allowed to use the named devices only within the 6th Form building
- If a mobile phone or headphones are seen by staff they will be confiscated **without warning.** This policy will be rigorously enforced by staff
- Confiscated items will be placed in the school safe in Reception for collection by parents/carers on the day of confiscation (or thereafter)
- If a student does not comply with any member of staff's instructions they will face further sanction in line with the behaviour policy
- If a student has their mobile phone or headphones confiscated on more than one occasion, they may be banned from bringing these items onto the school site for the remainder of the term
- Students found abusing the use of a phone, for example making inappropriate calls or videoing other students without their permission, will be sanctioned and banned from bringing a mobile phone into school
- We take the welfare of our students very seriously. If for example they are unwell or need to be dealt with by a member of staff regarding other issues, parents and carers will be contacted directly by the school as required. **Students must not directly contact parents for matters involving illness or discipline** unless instructed by a member of staff to do so
- The Headteacher's decision on all matters relating to the mobile phone protocol is final

School Reception is open from 8:00am until 4:30pm.

These rules apply at all times when on the school site.

By choosing The Joseph Whitaker School for your child's secondary education you have automatically agreed to follow all related policies.

Paragraph 138 in **Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024**

The school or college should have a clear policy on the use of mobile and smart technology. Amongst other things this will reflect the fact many children have unlimited and unrestricted access to the internet via mobile phone networks (i.e. 3G, 4G and 5G). This access means some children, whilst at school or college, sexually harass, bully, and control others via their mobile and smart technology,

share indecent images consensually and non-consensually (often via large chat groups) and view and share pornography and other harmful content. Schools and colleges should carefully consider how this is managed on their premises and reflect this in their mobile and smart technology policy and their child protection policy.

Adoption by the Governing Body



Headteacher

Signature Date: July 2025



Chair of Governors

Signature Date: July 2025



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