

## Mobile Phone Protocol

Created jointly by key staff and pupils within pupil forum

### Department for Education Guidance

New guidance from the Department for Education will back head teachers in banning mobile phone use throughout the school day, including at break times, to tackle disruptive behaviour and online bullying while boosting attention during lessons. It aims to support the wider work the government is doing to raise standards in schools by increasing students' focus and reducing distractions.

#### Pilgrim Staff Voice

Mobile phones can be a distraction to learning but can equally support engagement.

Mobile phones can have a detrimental impact on a pupils wellbeing if over used or an over reliance is formed.

Mobile phones can cause a barrier to forming relationships with peers and staff but can equally aid this in non-verbal circumstances.

Concerns for other pupil and staff safety and privacy regarding photos / video's being created in school.

#### Pupil Voice

Mobile phones support us with a sense of security as we have easy access to contact with parents.

Mobile phones support with reducing anxiety as we can communicate with friends and play games during free time.

Mobile phones support with emotional regulation as listening to music while working independently helps me to stay calm and focussed.

Due to the living distances between friendships made in school, school is the only face to face contact for making and recording memories.

#### Joint Pupil and Staff Voice

Mobile Phones can support with learning by using apps and tools.

Mobile phones can aid communication for pupils who struggle to talk.

### Pupil and Staff Agreement

- Mobile phones will be allowed in school.
- Mobile phones can be used at social times and pupils agree to using these safely and will seek support from staff if concerns arise.
- Mobile phones should only be used in lesson for listening to music when working independently, and if directed by a teacher for example for research purposes, academic tools and apps, calculator etc.
- If a pupil receives an urgent call or message from a parent they can leave the classroom in order to answer / respond to ensure the lesson is not disrupted for others.
- Pupils can take photos of themselves and friends so long as they have consent to do so, no other pupils or staff are in the background, and there is nothing that can identify the school or their location.

### Additional Information

Where pupils use phones as a transitional object and for direct communication with home, we will support to work towards communicating with school in the first instance.

Persistent misuse of phones may result in them needing to be handed in on arrival at school.

Any concerns by peers or staff for pupils becoming over-reliant on phones, misusing in school or accessing harmful content should be reported to key staff.