

Mobile Phone Policy

It is compulsory for ALL government schools to follow the Department for Education's mobile phone policy. It is intended to ensure we help promote:

- Safe environments with reduced negative impacts from inappropriate use of devices at school, such as cyberbullying
- Classroom environments where teachers can teach, and students can learn, free from distractions caused by personal use of devices
- Use of breaks as time away from screens, encouraging physical activity and face-to-face conversations.

Students must keep their mobile phones and other personal devices, such as smartwatches, off and away for the whole school day - including before school, recess, lunch, etc. They should be turned off or switched to airplane mode.

If students aren't allowed to use their phones, why are they permitted to bring them to school?

Students are permitted to bring phones and personal devices to school:

- To support their safety while travelling to and from school
- So parents and part-time employers can contact them outside of school

However, if you don't need it for these reasons, it is recommended that you leave it at home.

Exemptions can be approved in exceptional circumstances, such as where:

- The student uses their phone/device to monitor or manage a medical condition (to be documented in the student's health care plan)
- The phone/device is an agreed adjustment for a student with disability
- The phone/device is used for translation by a student who has English as an additional language

Where an exemption is granted, there will be clear guidelines around use.



Consider whether students really need to bring a phone to school at all. Leaving it at home may initially be difficult but it will help to avoid temptation.

There has been a lot of research in recent years that suggests that phone addiction is real and impacts negatively on learning, mental health, and well-being.