



De La Salle School

Mobile Phone Policy

De La Salle School is a Christian community, inspired by the vision and example of Saint John Baptiste De La Salle, where each person is invited to become the person intended him or her to be and to live a life of faith and love, following the example of Christ

Last Update: December 2024
Ratified by Governors: 18th December 2024
Next Review: December 2025

Mobile Phone Policy

Purpose

This policy outlines the school's expectations regarding mobile phone use to create a safe, respectful, and focused learning environment. It aligns with UK Government guidance on the use of mobile phones in schools, emphasising the importance of minimising distractions and ensuring that mobile devices do not interfere with teaching, learning, or student well-being.

Rationale

Mobile phones can be a significant distraction in schools, impacting students' ability to concentrate and engage fully in their education. They can also facilitate inappropriate behaviour, including cyberbullying and unauthorised communication during school hours. By restricting mobile phone use, the school aims to foster a positive learning environment and uphold high standards of behaviour and respect.

Policy

1. General Rules

- Mobile phones must not be seen or heard during the school day.
- On arrival at school, students must switch off their phones and store them securely out of sight (e.g., in a bag or locker) until the end of the school day.
- The only exception to this rule is when a mobile device is explicitly required for learning during a session supervised closely by a member of staff. In such cases, the use of the device must adhere strictly to the teacher's instructions.

2. Communication

- Students are not permitted to use mobile phones to communicate with anyone, including parents or carers, during school hours. In the event of an emergency, students should speak to a member of staff, who will facilitate appropriate communication.

3. Sanctions for Breaches

- **First Breach:**
 - The mobile phone will be confiscated by a member of staff and securely stored. It will be returned to the student at the end of the school day.
- **Repeated Breaches:**
 - For multiple breaches, the mobile phone will be confiscated and returned only when collected by a parent or carer.
- **Failure to Comply:**
 - Students who refuse to hand over their mobile phone when requested will be placed in isolation.
 - Continued refusal to comply with the school's sanctions will result in further disciplinary action under the Positive Behaviour Policy. This may include suspension in cases of persistent defiance.

Responsibilities

- **Students:**
 - Adhere to the rules outlined in this policy and ensure that mobile phones are switched off and stored appropriately during the school day.
- **Parents/Carers:**
 - Support the school in enforcing this policy by ensuring that students understand and comply with the rules.
 - Collect confiscated devices when required.
- **Staff:**
 - Model appropriate use of mobile devices within the school.
 - Enforce the policy consistently and fairly, following the procedures outlined above.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure its effectiveness and compliance with any updated government guidance. Feedback from staff, students, and parents will inform any necessary adjustments.