

The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School



*Following Jesus,
The Good Shepherd,
in all we say and do*

Mobile Phone/ Electronic Device
Statement of Practice for:

Mobile phone number: _____



Following Jesus, The Good Shepherd, in all we say and do

Children in Years 5 and 6 who walk to/from school unsupervised may request to bring a mobile phone to school. There may be other rare occasions where pupils in other year groups need to store a phone in school for the day. Under these circumstances, the following procedure applies.

For the purpose of this document, the word "devices" will include: laptops, netbooks, mobile phones, smart phones, iPods, iPads, tablets, head / earphones, watches with phones and/or the internet and any other electronic/mobile device that can be used for communication. This policy should be read alongside other relevant Policies, including our Safeguarding, Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policies.

The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School recognises the benefits and opportunities which new technologies offer to teaching and learning. We provide internet access to all of our students and encourage the use of technologies in order to enhance skills, promote achievement and enable lifelong learning. We also appreciate the safety benefits for families in allowing their child to have a mobile phone when travelling to and from the School and we feel this should continue. However, we have become increasingly concerned that the array of new technologies incorporated more recently into mobile phones, presents a temptation which can not only inhibit learning within the classroom but also contravenes our IT user agreement, with respect to student access to social networking sites whilst in school and our wider safeguarding duties as a result. Their inappropriate use can make students and staff vulnerable and, as such, we insist upon the following:

1. Our expectation at school is that students can carry their mobile phone with them to and from school, however, it should be turned off and put away before entering the school premise. **Our recommendation is to hand it to the School Office who will lock it away for the duration of the day.**
2. Under no circumstances must a device be used or on view whilst on the school premises. Any student found with their phone/device out and/or switched on whilst on school premises will have this confiscated immediately by the member of staff and returned when communication has been made with the student's parent/carer and collection arranged which is at a time of our convenience.
3. Students found using a device in an inappropriate way, for example to bully another student, will face an additional sanction.
4. The teacher has the discretion to allow students to use a personal device in the classroom for a specific project, to help with their learning, however, once this is complete the device must be turned off and put away again.
5. Devices found being used in school can also be subject to a search by our staff (whether any offence took place in school or outside of it) to protect students and staff. Where we find these have been used inappropriately we will inform parents and, if part of illegal practice, we will inform the police.
6. Even if not physically seen, the school also reserves the right to search for and remove devices if they suspect that they are being used or that they are making the student / other students / adults vulnerable in some way.
7. Should a student need to make contact with their parent/carer then our class teachers/ Office staff will be happy to support with this should it be deemed necessary, though that decision rests with an SLT member.

The School will take no responsibility for the loss, theft or damage of a device- these are brought at the student's/parents' discretion.

I agree to the above Statement of Practice:

Signed Student: _____ Date: _____

Signed Parent/Carer: _____ Date: _____