

MOBILE DEVICES POLICY

Prior Park College

Policy Owner Assistant Head (Teaching and Learning)	Applies to Prior Park College (PPC)	Superseded documents Mobile Device Policy v4
Associated documents E-Safety Policy Behaviour Policy Anti-Bullying Policy Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity Policy Safeguarding Policy Curriculum Policy Staff Code of Conduct Social Media Policy Taking, Storing and Using Images Policy	Review frequency Every two years (unless the legislation/regulations update before this time) Implementation date 9 December 2024	Legal Framework KCSIE 2024 Equality Act 2010

This policy is reviewed biennially, or more regularly as required, prior to approval by Trustees, where applicable.

Last reviewed by:	Assistant Head, Teaching and Learning (Mr M Bishop)
Date last reviewed:	November 2024
Approved by Trustees:	NA Approved by Head (Mr B Horan)
Date last approved:	9 December 2024
Date for next approval:	December 2026

1. Introduction

Prior Park Schools (PPS) is a family of Christian schools based in Bath and Gibraltar. Prior Park College (PPC) and The Paragon School (TP) are incorporated in England as Prior Park Educational Trust Ltd. Prior Park School Gibraltar (PPSG), is incorporated in Gibraltar as Prior Park School Ltd. Both are companies limited by guarantee and registered charities.

The Prior Park Schools mission, underpinned by shared values, is to steward a thriving family of communities with love for the young people they serve at their heart. These vibrant communities cultivate creativity, foster integrity, and transform lives.

Prior Park Schools Values:

Curiosity - Generosity - Courage

This policy is intended to give clarity about our expectations and to promote the welfare of all Students and to protect them from discrimination and harassment (whether this is based on any of the protected characteristics). We aim to promote tolerance and acceptance of the diversity essential to a successful community. We aim to promote attitudes that will allow people to function well in the school and in the wider community. This is supported by work in Houses, in Tutor groups, through taught PSCHE and through school and sectional assemblies, all seeking to foster positive and thoughtful behaviour.

2. Scope

Definitions

The term "personal learning device" (PLD) refers to all school issued computing devices.

The term "non-school device" (NSD) refers to any personal electronic device, not issued by PPS. This includes all non-school-issued mobile phones, smartphones, laptops or tablets, smart watches and emerging technologies.

The term "mobile devices" includes both PLDs and NSDs.

Principles

All mobile devices must be used in a considerate, thoughtful manner consistent with the guiding principles of the ethos of Prior Park College that stresses mutual respect, service to others and kind behaviour.

At Prior Park College we educate students about online safety and the appropriate use of electronic devices through the PSHCE curriculum, assemblies, and tutorials.

Mobile devices are a part of modern life and offer huge benefits in people's work and social life, but they must be used in a positive fashion and this guidance is to ensure that mobile devices are used responsibly within the school environment, with the aim that firm principles will also help people make good decisions in their wider use of modern technologies.

From L3-U5 mobile phones are handed in daily to protect the student's educational experience. These are given back to students at 4:30pm or 2:30pm on the days when they have a fixture. In L6 and U6, phones are expected to be invisible and kept switched off in sixth form, classrooms and houses during lesson time. Students in L6 and U6 must hand in their phones in they are on the Academic Concerns list.

For students in Sixth Form, there are areas in which simple good manners and basic safety mean the use of mobile devices is unacceptable. During any meals in the Dining Hall, in the Chapel, during any assembly or service, in changing areas, after lights out in House, and when walking around the site are obvious cases when use of mobile devices is unacceptable. There are three key principles central to the use of PLDs in school:

- PLDs are for approved educational activities
- People should treat PLDs with respect
- People should not attempt to install any hardware or software without the permission of the school

The school uses the following acronym to support these principles,

CASE - Charged, Appropriate, Safe and Educational.

Full details of the Procedure to be followed are described in Appendix A.

3. Policy

Personal Responsibility

As with all items, every student is responsible for the security of both their PLD and any NSDs and is expected to take all reasonable care to avoid loss or damage. Prior Park College accepts no responsibility for replacing NSDs that are lost, damaged or stolen in any circumstance whilst on the school premises or on school trips/functions.

We urge that all NSDs are password/pin code protected, and security marked. Tracker technology should be activated. Boarders are urged to leave items locked in their Boarding House, during the day, and Day Students should avoid having NSDs on-site all together.

Any use of mobile devices must conform to the Prior Park College E-Safety Policy and the advice given on internet safety.

It is expressly forbidden for any student to use mobile devices for any of the following purposes:

- To bully and harass (please see the Anti-Bullying Policy)
- To take photographs and recordings (video and audio) in class, a house, changing room or any other space in the school without the express permission of a specific teacher (who takes responsibility for that action)
- To carry out any activities which are against either the principles or details of the School Behaviour Policy

- To access, download or circulate inappropriate materials, - e.g. pornography, racist/hateful content, extremist propaganda
- To cheat in examinations or plagiarise academic work
- To affect any form of communication that brings the school into disrepute or defames groups or individuals
- To upload or share images, video and other content that is indecent or could embarrass or harass others or could break the law
- To game, chat or engage in other distracting behaviours during lesson or activity time, without the express permission of the supervising teacher

It is expected that all students will:

- Follow this Policy and the associated policies; E-Safety Policy, Behaviour Policy and Anti-Bullying Policy
- Always use a carry case when transporting the PLD inside and outside of school
- Take reasonable care to prevent damage to the PLD and will not cause any malicious damage, graffiti, or use stickers on a PLD
- Comply with the ICT system security and not disclose any passwords, to anyone else, provided to them by the school or other related authorities
- Not connect to non-secured public Wi-Fi hotspots
- Not attempt to circumvent school security systems via the use of Virtual Private Networks or by any other means
- Be held responsible by default for all activity carried out under their username and while the PLD is assigned to them
- Ensure that all data is kept secure and is used in accordance with school policies both in school and off-site. If students are unsure, they should seek clarification
- Not browse, download, upload or distribute any material that could be considered offensive, illegal, extremist, discriminatory, or pornographic
- Report any issues with the devices to the ICT support staff as soon as is reasonably practical
- Use the device for educational purposes, only as directed by their teachers in lessons prep and co-curricular periods
- Understand that all online activity using the PLD is logged and monitored both inside and outside school and that school safeguarding staff may be automatically alerted to any concerning behaviour
- Understand that on-screen activity whilst using a PLD during school time can be readily viewed by a teacher, school leader, or appropriate member of support staff to promote positive behaviour for learning, for safeguarding or child protection, or for other educational purposes. We also reserve the right for Senior Staff to monitor on-screen activity at *any* time in response to a serious safeguarding concern.
- Understand and accept that appropriate staff members reserve the right to block internet access as deemed necessary to enhance teaching and learning
- Only use the PLD assigned to them
- Understand the primary educational purpose of the PLDs, either at home or in school, and that their behaviour and use of the device must reflect this

Students and their parents/guardians will be required to sign the online Personal Learning Device Loan Agreement.

During the student's induction their tutor or HsM will go through the Acceptable Use of IT Services.

When students first log into their PLD they will automatically be diverted to an Acceptable Use Agreement and will be asked to sign and confirm that they understand their responsibility for looking after their device and being safe online.

PLD Teaching and Learning Expectations

PLDs are integral to effective teaching and learning for many lessons at Prior Park College, although they are not an exclusive replacement for pen and paper and they do not negate the need for students to arrive at lessons, fully equipped with stationery. The use of PLDs also necessitates the following expectations. Students must:

- Bring their device to school every day; fully charged, with their charging cable, in the carry case and with a set of headphones
- Never attempt to use NSDs in place of a PLD in lessons, unless explicitly directed by the teacher after agreement with SLT
- Take all reasonable measures to ensure that their attention is not divided between the PLD, teacher instruction and learning activities. Gaming, engaging in group 'Chats', or completing work for the wrong subject during lessons is strictly forbidden.
- Log in to Microsoft Teams and Outlook every weekday
- Respond to communications from teachers promptly
- Ensure that any work on OneNote has synced to meet deadlines
- Use the 'Assignments' function on Microsoft Teams to manage homework tasks
- Ensure that the structure and sequence of any OneNote Notebooks reflects that of the Content Library or is in accordance with the guidance given by the teacher
- Apply the same rigorous literacy standards to digital work as they would to written work, taking the time to use the spelling check function and to scan for typing errors

Sanctions for Misuse of PLDs

Students are always expected to abide by the three main principles. If devices are misused, staff should apply sanctions in-line with the Behaviour Policy and record the sanction on iSAMs Reward and Conduct Manager.

Some example cases with typical consequences are shown below:

Misuse	Consequence
Not having the device charged or not arriving with a device	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iSAMs Level 1 (C1) - Not fully equipped • Staff will speak to the student and remind them of the importance of having a charged device • Staff will send a student to the ICT if a temporary loan device is required
Not using the provided case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iSAMs Level 1 (C1)- Not fully equipped • Staff will speak to the student and remind them of the importance of using the provided case • Students to contact the ICT team if a replacement case is required
Disruption of lesson - using the device in an inappropriate manner e.g. for gaming or chat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iSAMs Level 2 (C2) - Disruptive Behaviour - Lunchtime detention • Staff will speak to the student and remind them of the importance of using the device appropriately
Repeated instances of the above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iSAMs Level 2 (C2) - Lunchtime Detention, or Level 3 (C3) - Friday after school Detention

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other consequences possible, including more regular monitoring of on-screen behaviour during lesson times.
Damage caused by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attempts to install non-approved hardware and/or software • Negligence • Vandalism and/or deliberate damage • Not using approved cases • Neglect, including water damage, overheating, freezing, dirt/sand, smoke, fire and radiation from environmental factors • Animals, including pets and pests • Maintenance carried out by 3rd party companies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iSAMS - Reward and Conduct Manager - PLD Damage (no associated reward or conduct points). • Staff to send student to ICT team upon identification of damage • ICT team to investigate nature of the damage and liaise with HsM to decide upon appropriate sanction • Level 2 (C2) - Lunchtime Detention / Level 3 (C3)- Friday after school detention likely, depending upon severity of damage and extent of malicious intent • Other potential consequences could include changes to the management of the PLD such as having to sign the device in/out, or being on report • Parents/Guardians paying for repairs/replacement of device as agreed in the Personal Device Loan Agreement. Coordinated by the ICT Manager.

Please note that this is not a definitive list, and the school is aware that some decisions may have to be taken on a case-by-case basis. Furthermore, PLDs are often subject to accidental damage. Any such damage should still be logged on iSAMS, with the student reassured by the member of staff that they are not necessarily in trouble, but that they must report immediately to the ICT Department to arrange for repair or replacement.

Sanctions for Misuse of NSDs

Mobile phones are handed in every day in L3-U5 to house staff at 8:30 and will be returned at 16:30. If a student is found using a phone having not handed it in, they should expect to receive an 'on-the-spot' sanction at C3 level (Friday after school detention). Students arriving late should hand this into reception. Persistent misuse of a mobile phone will lead to a further sanction. If a Sixth Form student does not adhere to the rules around mobile phone use (as detailed above in principles), this will be confiscated, and they may no longer have the privilege of bringing in a device.

In St. Mary's and St. Paul's Boarders in Forms Lower 3 - Upper 5 will hand in electronic devices to house staff at 21.00 (L3, F3) and 21.45 (F4, L5, U5). These will be locked away and returned at 8.00.

We suggest that parents of Day Students in Forms Lower 3 - Upper 5 do the same at home.

Staff Expectations

Staff should enforce the Mobile Devices Policy in a calm, sensible and appropriate manner, as guided by the Behaviour Policy. Staff must be particularly alert to the dangers of cyber-bullying and inappropriate use of mobile devices by students and have a responsibility to act in accordance with the Anti-Bullying Policy and Safeguarding Policy.

Staff have a responsibility to act as role models and ensure *their* use of personal mobile devices is, where possible, broadly consistent with the expectations of students outlined above. Within that broad expectation, it is recognised that, in the performance of their duties, there will be

instances where staff must use mobile devices in different ways including, but not limited to, taking registers in Chapel, or communicating with other staff on fixtures or at events.

All staff use of mobile phones must conform with the Staff Code of Conduct, the E-Safety Policy, the Social Media Policy, Taking, Storing and Using Images Policy, and general good manners.

Use of blogging and social networking for school purposes should be conducted safely, responsibly and done with the prior knowledge of the school and, specifically, DSL and Marketing Department. Staff must not have students as friends or contacts on any non-school social media platforms and should not communicate with students using a personal (non-school) account on any platform.

Curriculum subject teachers at PPC are issued with a staff device to facilitate communications and digital learning. The use of these devices must be consistent with the Staff Code of Conduct, E-Safety Policy, Social Media Policy, and Data Protection Policy, and be conducted in a way which acts as a good role model towards students' use of their own PLDs.

Full details of the staff expectation with regards to digital learning can be viewed in the Teaching and Learning Handbook (see Appendix B), with an outline below:

- OneNote is the primary application for digital work.
- Teachers have a responsibility to populate their Content Libraries with appropriate resources, considering the level of detail and cognitive demand appropriate for students in each year group, including effective revision resources and advice.
- Staff must set all prep tasks as Assignments on Microsoft Teams, attaching the OneNote page of instructions where appropriate, in addition to verbally explaining the task and expectations in class.
- Staff should take all reasonable measures to ensure that their students' attention is not divided between their PLD and teacher instruction:
 - Setting clear standards for behaviour for learning
 - Having students close their PLDs when not in use
 - Using Senso as appropriate to view students' on-screen behaviour in lessons or activity times and to block internet browser access if appropriate.
- Staff must recognise an age-appropriate balance between digital work, written and practical tasks in their lesson design, with lengthier written tasks completed in an exercise book or on paper, particularly at KS3 and in approach to external examinations.

APPENDIX A

Staff Guidance- Behaviours for Learning with PLDs

The following guidance aims to establish some whole-school expectations for staff and student use of the PLDs. Whilst appropriate educational use of the devices will generally be dictated by individual teachers and departments, the hope is that a school-wide approach will help to reduce cognitive load for students and provide a common framework encouraging behaviour for learning.

The acronym CASE can be used to encourage positive student behaviour with their devices:

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| Charged | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Every student must attend school with their device fully charged. |
| Appropriate | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students must check Teams and Outlook daily to communicate with their teachers.• They must use the 'Assignments' function in Teams to manage and prioritise their completion of homework and must mark Assignments as being 'Submitted' to ensure that this area remains organised.• Devices should not be covered in stickers or graffiti. |
| Safe | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students must act in accordance with the Acceptable Usage Agreement to stay safe online.• Students take full responsibility for keeping their own PLD safe and must take reasonable precautions to safeguard others' devices.• A carry case must be used to transport the device around site, within a school bag where possible.• The device should not be left in public areas.• No student should touch or use another student's device. |
| Educational | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students should be 'ready to learn', with their device on the desk, lid closed, at the beginning of each lesson, unless directed otherwise by their teacher.• Students must use their device exactly as instructed by their teacher, and close background applications to avoid distraction. |

Student breaches of the PLD behaviour for learning guidelines above should be dealt with in accordance with the PPC Behaviour Policy.