



Pupil mobile phone policy 2024-25

Contents

Rationale.....	3
Aims.....	3
Purpose of this policy.....	3
Expectations of pupils.....	3 & 4
Expectations of Parents.....	4
Sanctions/Consequences.....	4 & 5
Taking responsibility for mobile phones.....	5 & 6
Monitoring of this policy.....	6
Related Educational Guidance and Research for information.....	6

1. Rationale

The safeguarding of pupils at Ysgol Nantgwyn is paramount. Whilst we recognise mobile phones and other 'portable' devices are now an integral part of society, they are susceptible to misuse, and in a school environment we witness the negative impact that mobile phones have on our pupils too often.

Such inappropriate use includes the impact of cyberbullying and misuse of social media such as Tik Tok, Twitter, Facebook, Snapchat and Instagram (please note this list is not exhaustive). In different ways, such technology can also be responsible for the exploitation of vulnerable young people.

While we are a school that embraces new technology and innovation, we must also act responsibly where the safety and well-being of both pupils and staff have been threatened. This is the case in relation to the ways in which too many young people are dependent on their mobile phones and other portable devices such as 'airpods'.

2. Aims

In response to the rationale above, this policy aims to:

- Set clear guidelines for the use of mobile phones and other portable devices on the school site
- Set these guidelines within related school policies such as:
 - Safeguarding and child protection
 - Positive relationships
 - Teaching and learning
 - E-safety and appropriate use of ICT

3. Purpose of this policy

Pupils must understand this policy as a condition upon which mobile phones are to be brought into our school.

This policy also applies to pupils during school excursions, educational visits, and extra-curricular activities on the school site and on external visits.

The school policy in relation to mobile phones and other portable devices is:

- Pupils should not be seen with, or use a mobile phone or other portable device on our school site.

4. Expectations of pupils

Mobiles may be in school but they must not be seen or heard.

“Out of sight is alright” - “On display - taken away”

Mobile phones are not permitted to be used or seen on the school site at any time unless permitted by a member of staff (this includes break and lunch times).

All pupils must not under any circumstances take a mobile phone into a room or other area where examinations are being held.

Any portable device such as airpods / headphones / smart watches should not be used or visible whilst moving around the school site.

This does not include those pupils who require the use of electronic devices as an essential tool for their learning or safety. * These pupils will be listed on Wednesday briefing notes.

Expectations of Parents

Whilst we would prefer parents not to use their mobile phones at our school, we recognise the difficulties in regulating this. We therefore ask that parent usage of mobile phones is courteous and appropriate to our school environment and our expectations. If parents need to contact their children urgently they should phone the school office and a message can be relayed promptly.

5. Sanctions/Consequences

Confiscating a mobile phone

If a pupil is seen with or using a mobile phone (or other portable device), the phone will be confiscated by a member of staff and stored safely and securely within the school building.

Schools are permitted to confiscate phones from learners under sections 91 and 94 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

If a mobile phone needs to be confiscated, then:

- The pupil will be expected to hand the phone to the member of staff in line with this school policy
- The pupil will be informed of the arrangement for returning the mobile phone depending on how many times the situation has occurred (see below)
- The mobile phone will be stored safely and securely so that it is returned to the correct person.

- The reasons for confiscation will be recorded on Class Charts.
- If a pupil refuses to hand over their mobile phone to any member of staff then parents will be contacted to attend a meeting at school immediately. This rule similarly applies to the use of headphones / smartwatches / airpods.

1st time

The mobile phone will be confiscated.

2 negative behaviour points will be issued on Class Charts

The phone can be collected at the end of the day by the pupil from pupil reception.

2nd time

The mobile phone will be confiscated.

5 negative behaviour points will be issued on Class Charts

The phone can be collected after the end of the school day, but no later than 15:30, by the parent from main reception. If not, it will be held until the end of the next school day, and so on.

Third time

The mobile phone will be confiscated.

10 negative points will be issued on Class Charts

The phone can be collected after the end of the school day, but no later than 15:30, by the parent from main reception. If not, it will be held until the end of the next school day, and so on. Parents will be invited to school to meet with a member of the school team to discuss the continuous breach of this policy.

Frequent and /or malicious use

Where infringement is frequent and persistent or where pupils have used their mobile phones to film or record members of staff or pupils, or used their mobile phones for malicious activity that humiliates, embarrasses, or causes offence, then the pupil will receive sanctions that are more substantial.

A senior member of staff will have the right to view files stored in confiscated equipment and if necessary, seek the cooperation of parents in deleting any files which are in clear breach of these guidelines unless they are being preserved as evidence.

If required evidence of the offence or suspected offence will be preserved, preferably by confiscation of the device and keeping it secure or by taking photographs of the screen.

Any misuse of a mobile phone (recording or photographing people without consent) is illegal and therefore senior staff will consider whether an incident should be reported to the police.

Senior leaders reserve the right to consider all available sanctions which could include a fixed-term or even permanent exclusion.

A record will be kept of all cases of misuse.

6. Taking responsibility for mobile phones

Parents are reminded that in cases of emergency, the school reception remains a vital and appropriate point of contact and can ensure your child is reached quickly and assisted in any relevant way. Passing on messages in this way also reduces the likelihood of disrupting lessons inadvertently. It is important that all communication with your child between the start and end of the school day is made via the school on 01443 436171.

The school accepts no responsibility whatsoever for theft, loss, damage or health effects (potential or actual) relating to mobile phones or other portable devices in the possession of pupils or confiscated by staff. It is the responsibility of parents and pupils to ensure mobile phones and other portable devices are properly insured.

7. Monitoring of this policy

This policy will be monitored in the following ways:

- Any misuse of mobile phones or other portable devices will be logged on ClassCharts
- Data from ClassCharts will be reported and discussed in school team meetings and raised with senior leadership, where necessary and/or appropriate.
- Surveys will be conducted with staff, pupils and parents to record the impacts on pupils
- Reports will be provided to the GB

8. Related Educational Guidance and Research for information

1. Educational Research and Policy Paper <https://policyexchange.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Disconnect.pdf>
2. Mobile Phones in School Guidance - Department for Education
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65cf5f2a4239310011b7b916/Mobile_phones_in_schools_guidance.pdf