

MOBILE PHONE USE POLICY OF



Tarbert Comprehensive School

Students are permitted to have mobile phones in their possession during the school day. However the phones must be turned OFF completely on entering the school grounds and remain off until the students leave the school grounds in the evening unless directed otherwise by a member of staff. The phones must be kept completely out of sight during the course of the day. The phone must also remain off at break times.

All contact with home must be undertaken through the main office. Likewise, parents are requested not to make direct contact with their son/daughter via mobile phone either by text, app message, phone call, email, face-time etc. All contact must be conducted through the school office only.

Mobile phones are not allowed in after-school study for any activity including as an audio/music/video playing device. If a student wishes to make a phone call home at 3:50 p.m. they may do so in the office area.

A breach of this Mobile Phone Policy will result in the confiscation of the phone. A teacher who confiscates a phone that is turned on should request the student to turn off the phone, write down the student's name and take the phone to the Deputy Principal's office. The student receives an automatic two day detention.

A confiscated phone will be returned to the student after one week (7 days including weekends). Alternatively, the phone may be collected by the student's Parent(s)/Guardian(s) at any time during the course of that week. However it is strongly recommended that the phone is not collected by a Parent/Guardian on the first evening of confiscation so as impress upon the student the importance of conforming to school rules.

A repeat breach of this Policy will result in a longer period of lunchtime detention and similar confiscation of the phone.

Students are permitted to use their mobile phones for class/project work/trips/outings if directed to do so by the supervising teacher (s). However the phone should be turned OFF again once the task (s) is/are completed. It is entirely the responsibility of the student to ensure that the phone is turned off and put away out of sight once the work is completed.

Tarbert Comprehensive School takes no responsibility for any phone that may be lost or stolen during the course of the year.

A student who uses a mobile phone to take pictures, screenshots or videos on school grounds and/or on school trips/outings for any purpose that may be deemed harmful or offensive e.g. mockery - intimidation - entertainment - physical and emotional attack/abuse - "mock" fighting etc. of another individual or individuals are subject to the school's Anti-Bullying as well as

Health & Safety Policies. Equally the transmission of such images utilising web pages, social media, apps, emails and text messaging either directly or indirectly are also subject to the Policies.

The above rules now form part of the School's Code of Behaviour and subject to the normal sanctions for breach of discipline.

Ratified by the BOM: April 2008

Updated & ratified by the BOM: June 2016