

Ffynnone House School



Mobile Phone policy

Reviewed: August 2023, July 2024, June 2025
Review Date: June 2026

MOBILE PHONE POLICY

Ffynone House School recognizes that the emerging technologies accessible through mobile phones are both a potential danger to pupils and simultaneously an aid to teaching and learning. They are also an important means for parents to keep in touch with their children, especially to confirm arrangements at the end of the school day.

We believe that the safe and responsible use of smartphone technology is a benefit to individuals but not at the expense of good classroom discipline, respect for others, anti-social behaviour and the risks posed by un-filtered access to online content. It is expressly prohibited for students to use a mobile phone or other similar device to record audio or video content during a lesson without good purpose and the explicit approval of the teacher.

To that end, **pupils in Years 7 to 11 are not permitted to use mobile phones or smart watches in school from 8.45 am until 3.50 pm. Any pupil seen doing so by a member of staff will have their phone or smart watch confiscated. If mobile phones or smart watches are brought onto the school site, they are to remain out of sight. Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 form teachers have safes in their classrooms for pupils' mobile phones and smart watches. Pupils are expected to hand in phones and smart watches for safe keeping at the start of the school day and to collect them at 3.50 pm. Outside normal hours, pupils must not play music through speakers or headsets. No photographs or videos can be taken while on school premises without the express permission from a member of staff. Doing so without permission is a serious disciplinary offence.**

Students in Years 12 and 13 are permitted to use phones in sixth form rooms but not in public areas.

For students in Years 12 and 13:

- mobile phones can be used to access the internet and listen to music through headphones only when in the sixth form study and common rooms.
- Students must not play music through speakers.
- Students must not take photographs or video on a personal phone on school premises unless fulfilling an educational purpose supervised by a teacher.
- Phones must be switched off during lessons and placed in school bags or secured in lockers.
- Mobile phones are not allowed to be used in the classroom unless at the request or with the permission of a member of staff. Such permission applies only for that lesson and cannot be used as permission for other lessons.

For all students, in the event of an emergency or if a pupil becomes unwell, the school office remains the appropriate point of contact for parents and carers.

Any student bringing a mobile phone to school does so at their own risk. It is assumed that household insurance will provide cover in the event of loss or damage. The school will not accept responsibility for any loss, damage or costs incurred due to its use.

If at any time a pupil misuses their phone or refuses to follow the above rules, members of staff are instructed to confiscate the phone.