

Aspirational Futures Multi Academy Trust



Mobile Phone Policy

Aspirational Futures Multi Academy Trust Wide Policy

June 2024

Document Control

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1. Rational

At Aspirational Futures Multi Academy Trust we recognise the importance of technology in today's world, including the use of mobile phones. However, we also understand that mobile phones can be a distraction, pose a potential safeguarding concern and may impact the learning environment. Therefore, we have implemented the following mobile phone policy to ensure a safe and focused educational experience for all our students.

2. Aim

The purpose of this mobile phone policy is to establish guidelines for the responsible and appropriate use of mobile phones by students at Parklands. It aims to ensure a conducive learning environment, increase student engagement by minimising distractions, and promote student safety and wellbeing.

3. Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on guidance and literature from the Department for Education (DfE) and other relevant bodies, including:

- [Behaviour in schools - GOV.UK](#)
- [Mobile phones in schools - GOV.UK](#)
- [Searching, Screening and Confiscation - GOV.UK](#)

4. Expectations

Mobile phones should be turned off before students enter the school grounds and remain off until they leave the school grounds at the end of the day. Our trust adopts a 'see it, hear it, take it' policy, where mobile phones and electronic devices should not be seen or heard whilst the student is on the school site. Students should not use their phone or electronic device before school, and during break or lunchtime. Acceptable use includes when students are involved in school trips. When students are involved in a school trip, they should follow the mobile phone expectations set by trip staff.

5. School's responsibility

The trust will not be responsible for any loss, theft, or damage to students' mobile phones. It is recommended that students do not bring valuable or expensive devices to school. It is the responsibility of parents/carers and pupils to ensure mobile devices are properly insured.

6. Exceptions

School trips may have their own mobile phone expectations. Students should follow the instructions given by trip staff. In cases where mobile phones are used to monitor medical conditions, students will be issued a medical card which permits them from accessing their phone without prior permission from staff. Parents/carers should make the school aware of any changes to medical conditions or monitoring procedures.

7. Consequences

Students found violating the mobile phone policy may face disciplinary action, which includes confiscation of the device, detention, or other consequences. Repeated or severe violations such as taking photos of staff or students without permission will result in escalated consequences, including parental/carer involvement, parents/carers being required to collect the mobile phone or electronic device, and potential suspension or permanent exclusion.

The below breaches are per term:

First breach:

The mobile phone will be confiscated and students will need to collect it from reception at 3pm.

Second breach:

The mobile phone will be confiscated and students will need to collect it from reception at 3pm. In addition to this, students will attend a 30 minute SLT detention. Students must hand their phone to their form tutor on the day of the detention and collect it after they have completed their detention.

Third breach:

The mobile phone will be confiscated and parents of the student will need to collect it from reception at 3pm. In addition to this, students will attend a 30 minute SLT detention. Students must hand their phone to their form tutor on the day of the detention and collect it after they have completed their detention. Any subsequent breaches will result in students handing their phones in every morning.

Parents will be notified about all breaches.

8. Inappropriate mobile phone use (outside of school)

Where students have used their mobile phones or electronic devices inappropriately outside of school hours and whilst off site, staff may inform and advise the relevant parties (parents/carers, DSL, social services), working with them to support and sanction where appropriate. This is to ensure the welfare of all.

9. Contact between home and school

Students, parents and carers should use the school office as the first point of contact if they need to get in touch during the school day. We can ensure messages get to students and parents/carers. Student mobile phones should not be used during any emergency such as fire drills, evacuations or school lockdown procedures. Parents and carers are advised not to contact their child on his/her personal mobile during the school day. If students are contacted and their device is seen or heard, they will be subject to the sanctions in this policy. Emergency calls must be directed through the school office.

Short notice notifications such as after school club cancellations, delays returning to school from fixtures will be sent via the school's messaging system.

10. Staff use of mobile phones

At times staff may need to use their mobile phones to take registers or access systems such as Class Charts or Edulink apps. All use of mobile phones by trust staff will be in line with the Acceptable User Policy for staff.

11. Education and awareness

Each school will provide education and awareness training to inform students about the responsible use of mobile phones and the potential consequences of misuse. Teachers and staff members will lead discussions about digital citizenship, online safety, and the appropriate use of mobile technology.

12. Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years and may be amended periodically by the trust in consultation with teachers, staff, students and the trade unions.