



The John Fisher School

Students' Mobile Phone Rules

Responsible: Governors' SLAW Committee

Next Review Date: June 2021

It is recommended that mobile phones are not brought into school by students.

However, if parents/carers feel that it is necessary for students to bring mobile phones to school, we suggest that only the cheapest models are used. Expensive brands should be avoided. We also suggest that phones are protected with security markings and codes.

Any student choosing to bring a mobile phone into school is expected to abide by the following rules which control the use of mobile phones:

☐ Mobile phones may only be brought into school so that students can contact parents/carers on their way to and from school, but they must be switched off before they come in through the school gates and kept switched off throughout the school day. They must not be switched on again until the student has left the school premises.

☐ Parents/carers needing to contact students during the school day should telephone the school in the usual way and not try to contact the students directly.

☐ **Any student found using a mobile phone at any time during the school day, will have that phone confiscated. In the first instance this will be for one week. If there is a second offence the phone will be confiscated for two weeks. The phone will be kept in the school safe in the general office. A letter will be sent home explaining when it can be collected.**

☐ Students who bring a mobile phone to school should make every effort to reduce the risk of theft during school hours. Students who carry mobile phones are advised to keep them well concealed.

☐ If students bring phones in to school it is their responsibility to hand them in to the teacher during PE & Games lessons.

☐ The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones. Any mobile phone that is brought in to school will be at the owner's risk. It will not always be possible for staff to investigate the loss of mobile phones.

☐ Any students caught using a mobile phone to cheat in exams or assessments will face disciplinary action by the school and the exam board.

☐ Sixth Form students will be allowed phones, but they must only be used in the Sixth Form common room during break and lunch times.

☐ MP3 players, headphones and similar electronic devices are not allowed for students in Years 7-11.

Curriculum Use

On occasion, a teacher may give permission for identified student(s) to use a mobile phone for curriculum purposes. Examples include: photographing art work, recording drama or music compositions, for PE or Science practical, GCSEPod revision sessions, etc. The teacher will set clear guidelines for such activities and it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that their mobile is turned off immediately at the end of the

task. The school's normal sanctions, as outlined above, will apply for any student who abuses the use of their mobile phone in a period when they have been given permission by a teacher for curriculum use only.

NB: Please refer to the school's Safeguarding Policy (section 3.12) for information regarding e-safety.