



Learning & Achieving Together

The Coleshill School – An 11-19 Business & Enterprise Academy

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Mobile devices policy June 2017

Mobile devices include but are not exclusive to phones, tablets, iWatches, games consoles such as Nintendo DS, MP3s or iPods.

Introduction and aims

At The Coleshill School the welfare and well-being of our students is paramount. The aim of the Mobile Devices Policy is to allow users to benefit from modern communication technologies, whilst promoting safe and appropriate practice through establishing clear and robust guidance on acceptable use whilst on school site. This is achieved through balancing protection against potential misuse with the recognition that mobile phones are effective communication tools and when used correctly can enhance the education of our students.

It is recognised that it is the enhanced functions of many mobile phones that cause the most concern, offering distractions and disruption to the working day, and which are most susceptible to misuse - including the taking and distribution of indecent images, exploitation and bullying. However as it is difficult to detect specific usage, this policy refers to ALL mobile communication devices.

Code of Conduct

Mobile devices are not allowed in to be used in school at social times, unless in a clearly designated "phone zone".

Social times are between:

8:00am to 8:45am

10:45am to 11:05am

12:25pm to 1:05 pm

The only areas, "phone zones", where the use of mobile devices will be permitted during social times are:

- ✓ the Sixth Form Centre – exclusively for Sixth Form students
- ✓ the canteen
- ✓ the hall
- ✓ the library
- ✓ D1 – exclusively for Y11

Whilst in the "phone zone", students are not allowed to use their mobile devices for taking photographs or videos. If they are found to do this, their mobile device will be confiscated and placed in the school safe, for collection at 3:10pm.

The "phone zones" will be clearly signposted to remind students about the restrictions. Outside the "phone zones" mobile devices are not allowed to be seen or heard and therefore they should be switched off and stored inside bags.

There is no transition to the phone zones; students will not be allowed to have their phones anywhere outside these areas. If the mobile devices are spotted by a member of staff they will be

confiscated and placed in a safe until the end of the school day, when they will be returned to the student.

There will be no warnings given to the students about this, if a mobile device is seen or heard outside a “phone zone”, the sanction is immediate confiscation.

Any refusal to hand over the device to the member of staff will be treated as defiance and dealt with using the usual school sanctions.

Earphones are not allowed on school site and will be confiscated if seen at any time of the day.

Students who are persistently caught using their device in school, outside of the “phone zones”, should expect to have a parental meeting to discuss further actions to ensure their use of mobile devices is in line with the school’s policy.

Misuse of mobile devices

Students must not use mobile devices to access, use or distribute any material, or to participate in any activity, which is regarded as distasteful, offensive, indecent or harmful to other students. The following list gives examples of the sort of material or activities that will be regarded as unacceptable. It is not exhaustive.

- bullying or harassment
- personal insults, attacks or abuse
- racist or sexist activity
- indecent images; taking, sending and receiving especially of other students

In the event of a serious misuse of a mobile device, the school will seek to inform you of the circumstances and will also contact the police, pending their investigations. Mobile devices will in this instance only be returned to a parent/carer or will be handed over to the police at their request.

In lesson use

Mobile devices will be allowed in lessons at the teacher’s discretion for educational purposes, such as PIXL Maths App, Tasomai for Science, and other such applications.