

Arnold Hill Academy

Mobile Phone Policy



Approved by Governors:(Date)

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Mobile phone policy for students

The school's rules regarding mobile phones brought to school by students are:

1. Mobile phones can be brought to school, but between arrival at school and departure they must be switched off and kept in a safe place in the student's bag or about their person.
2. Any use of a mobile phone, whether it is for calls, messaging, photographs or games during the school day is strictly prohibited.
3. Use of a mobile phone at school will result in its immediate confiscation. For a first offence the student can collect it from the reception desk in the school office at the end of the school day by showing their planner; for subsequent offences a parent or guardian will be asked to collect it by arrangement.
4. Consistent abuse of the school rules regarding use of mobile phones will result in that student not being allowed to bring their phone to school at all, and non-co-operation with this will result in other sanctions being applied.

The school has adopted these rules because the use of mobile phones in school can be highly disruptive. Here are a few examples of their misuse:

- Mobile phones ringing during lessons, disrupting the learning process
- Children text messaging each other as a method of intimidation/bullying
- Theft of mobile phones or damage to them, requiring extensive investigation
- Children text messaging test/examination answers to each other, compromising examinations security and integrity
- Children contacting parents to complain of feeling ill, arranging to be collected from school without actually informing the school and allowing the school to manage the situation
- Children abusing the photographic facility available on some phones, taking photographs of other children and staff in potentially embarrassing situations without their permission

- Children photographing/filming each other committing acts of vandalism as part of a game

The school's stance is designed as an effective compromise, allowing those parents that wish it, the reassurance of contact before and after school.

The use of **personal music players** causes similar problems and therefore the same rules and action of confiscation will apply.

During the school day any urgent contact between parents/guardians and students should be managed through the school telephone system.