



Warwick Academy

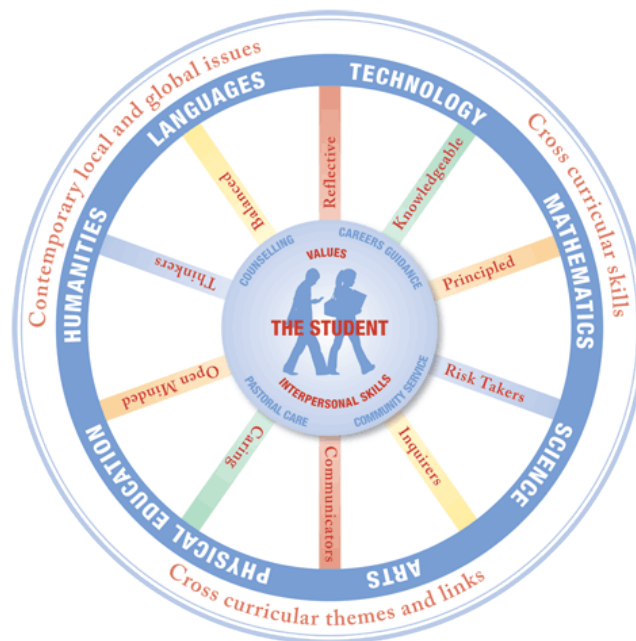
'so much more than a place to learn'

Mobile Device Policy

MISSION STATEMENT

Building on centuries of excellence, we provide an international educational environment designed for our diverse student body. Our innovative curriculum is delivered with a commitment to personalised pastoral care and enhanced by a dynamic co-curricular programme. We strive to create a culture of collaboration so that our students can become lifelong learners, global thinkers and successful leaders.

CURRICULUM MODEL



NOTES

Dated: July 2023

To be reviewed: September 2025

Staff involved: SMT/PMT

Mobile Device Acceptable User Policy

Introduction

Mobile devices are digital devices that can access the internet, cellular telephony services, store books, photographs, video footage, and other electronic media. Mobile devices like Kindles, Nooks, iPods, tablets (iPads etc.), smart phones (iPhones, Samsung Galaxy etc.), and other similar mobile devices (laptops) are quickly becoming/have become ubiquitous in our digital culture. They simply cannot be ignored in an educational environment. The school embraces the use of technology to enhance student learning. The integration of student laptops into daily lessons increases the need for a Mobile Device Policy.

The school, in striving to maintain technological relevance to education, is providing the opportunity for students to use these devices in accordance with this **Mobile Device Acceptable Use Policy**. This opportunity is a **privilege** that requires extra caution and responsibility both on the part of students and their parents. This policy applies when students are at school and when attending a school sponsored or school related off-campus activity.

The wide variety of hardware and software capabilities of available mobile devices makes them challenging to monitor and control in a school environment in contrast with school owned technology assets like computers, etc. Therefore, this policy is specific and clear. **A student who violates any portion of the policy may have the device confiscated for a period of a week and can incur further consequences in line with the schools discipline policy (demerit system)**. The length of time administered for any violation of this policy may vary to be commensurate with the nature of the violation.

Mobile devices constitute a potential major problem because:

- Students phoning, texting, messaging (iMessage, Facebook Messenger, WhatsApp etc.) or using social media like (Twitter , Facebook, Instagram etc.) disrupts learning and teaching
- Texting and social media can be used to bully other children
- Mobile devices have been used in other schools to transmit images of pupils in changing rooms.
- The public examination boards regard mobile devices as a threat to examination security.
- They are a fashion item and the cause of petty crime.
- They are a valuable item which can go missing in school – absorbing hours of senior staff time as they try to track down what happened.
- They can be used to access inappropriate material

As indicated above, we understand that mobile devices have become a convenience of daily life and parents may want to be able to contact their sons/daughters who are dependent on public

transport. We therefore allow students to bring mobile devices to school as long as they abide by this policy.

Aims of our policy

We aim to ensure that:

- a. Learning and teaching is not interrupted
- b. Students/staff are safe
- c. Students can be contacted in school during the day without the use of mobile devices (phones)
- d. When it is necessary, students have the means to make emergency contact after school.

Mobile device regulations apply from arrival on the school premises until 4:30pm and are as follows:

1. Mobile devices in school are the students' responsibility. They should be switched off and kept securely in lockers, bags or pockets, and they must be used only when **specifically authorised by a teacher.**
2. The school reserves the right to examine mobile devices if a member of staff suspects that these regulations have been broken. This will be done in the presence of the student and a second member of staff.
3. Mobile devices shall not be used to play games, for communication, or access leisure application activities of any kind, at any time. This is regarded as misuse.
4. Mobile devices shall not become a distraction for the student and/or other students, nor a source of any school disruption.
5. Students are responsible for knowing how to properly and effectively use their Mobile devices which should not become a burden to the teacher.
6. All material on and usage of the mobile devices shall comply with the spirit of educational application and the school's **Internet User Policy.**
7. Students must not photograph other students under any circumstances, and must not record staff (video or voice) without their explicit permission.
8. Parents wishing to contact their son/daughter during the school day should ring the school. We have a well-established and efficient system for getting the messages to pupils, and pastoral support if it is needed.
9. Students who need to contact parents during the course of the school day should use the phone in the main office or their mobile device (phone) under the supervision of the office staff.

10. If mobile devices are seen, heard or are used by pupils outside these regulations they will be confiscated for one week. They will be kept in a sealed envelope in the school safe and returned to the student at the end of the confiscation period. Parents are asked not to put the staff in an embarrassing situation by asking for phones to be returned when students have been in breach of school policy.
11. The School assumes no responsibility for the loss of, theft of, or damage to any personal mobile device which has been brought onto school premises.
12. In light of concerns about the uses to which images can be put, we ask all parents to be sensitive about taking photographs using mobile devices, cameras or video-recorders at school events. We may question anyone we do not recognise who is using a camera or video-recorder at schools events or productions.

Mobile devices in classrooms

We know that mobile devices are going to have an increasingly important role in learning, and teachers may decide that students can use them in lessons where they are beneficial for a specific purpose. We will continue to ensure safe and responsible use of ICT and mobile devices to protect staff and students, and the following rules apply in everyone's interest.

1. Students who use mobile devices in lessons must do so only as directed by the teacher. For example, teachers may permit web access during a lesson, but students would not be allowed to take photographs unless they were given specific permission.
2. Headphones and earpieces may be used only when the teacher permits.
3. Mobile devices can be used by Y11-13 students for the purposes of listening to music (with headphones) when studying at school; again only as directed by the teacher.

The school network is protected/filtered. All mobile devices should access the Internet through the school network and not independently through their own service providers, which would not guarantee a filtered and monitored service. The school is not responsible for any content brought in to school on any mobile device and advises parents to responsibly check their child's mobile devices.

Mobile devices outside of school hours

Warwick Academy does not monitor student devices outside of school operating hours. It is the school's expectation that students continue to reflect the Core Values of Warwick Academy when using their mobile devices. However, inappropriate use of devices outside of school that impact the learning and well-being of students during the school day will result in consequences being issued as laid out by the Sanctions and Rewards Policy (Primary) and Positive Discipline (Secondary). Pupils are expected to adhere to Social Media platform recommendations at all times.