



Pupil Mobile Phone Policy

October 2018

Aims and expectations

The widespread ownership of mobile phones among children in school requires all staff to ensure that steps are taken to keep children safe and secure in school.

Mobile phones are valuable commodities and may result in a child being vulnerable to theft.

Ernehale Junior school recognises the potential for mobile phones and in particular camera phones, to be used inappropriately and compromise the confidentiality of the children in our school through the inappropriate capture, use or distribution of images.

It is a primary aim of our school that every member of the school community feels valued and respected, and that each person is treated fairly and well. The school mobile phone policy is designed to support the way in which all members of the school can live and work together to promote an environment where everyone feels happy, safe and secure.

Even when apparently silent, the use of mobiles phones for texting purposes could be potentially undermining of classroom discipline and distract the pupils learning.

The Governors accept that it is not regarded as realistic to have a policy which completely prohibits pupils from taking phones to school.

Therefore our policy prohibits the unauthorised use by pupils of mobile phones while on school premises, grounds or during all off site activities e.g. school swimming or residential.

Policy on the use and possession of mobile phones by pupils

Mobile phones should not be brought to school. School advises all parents to discourage pupils from bringing mobile phones to school on the grounds that they are valuable and may be lost or stolen.

However, we appreciate that older children in year 6, may walk to and from school alone and parents may wish the child to have a phone. If this is the case the phone must be turned off as soon as they arrive on the school grounds and given to the class teacher at the beginning of the school day. The teacher will store the phone in a secure place until the end of the school day. The phone will be handed back to the child on the playground and they are not permitted to turn it back on until they leave the school grounds.

Where a school pupil is found by a member of staff to be in unauthorised possession of a mobile phone, the item will be taken from the child and stored as above. The child may have the phone returned to them at the end of the day.

If this is a persistent problem the parent/carer will be informed, and the child may be asked not to bring the phone in to school. The school will follow its behaviour policy and enforce the school rules and to ensure a safe and positive learning environment. Each case will be considered individually.

The school will accept no liability or responsibility what so ever for any mobile phones brought on to the school premises at any time.

Ernehale Junior school does not tolerate bullying of any kind. If we discover that an incident of bullying or intimidation has taken place through the use of mobile phones we act immediately to stop any further occurrences of such behaviour.

The school works collaboratively with parents/carers to ensure children receive consistent messages about bringing mobile phones into school.

Review

The governing body reviews this policy every two years. The governors may, however, review the policy earlier than this, if the government introduces new regulations, or if the governing body receives recommendations on how the policy might be improved.

Date: October 2018