

Policy on the Use of Mobile Technology

Context

At Queen Mary's High School we recognise that the appropriate use of mobile technology can enhance learning and provide a valuable reassurance of safety for students who have to travel some distance to get to school.

Issues

- Access to phones during break/lunch can result in a number of instances of inappropriate use:
 - Bullying
 - Invasion of privacy
 - Lack of adherence to school procedures e.g. phoning a parent to come and collect a student who feels unwell without the school being aware that there is an issue.
- Students regularly lose their phones resulting in time and effort being spent in trying to find them.
- Occasionally the theft of a phone occurs, causing great distress for students and their parents.
- Students can spend excessive time playing games etc. rather than engaging with their peers and/or participating in extra-curricular activities.
- Students are often so absorbed in listening to music and/or using their phone when walking around school that they can collide with others using the corridors; clearly, this is a health and safety risk.

Policy

- Students are able to bring mobile devices to school. This recognises the demographic of our school, which means that some students travel considerable distances to and from home. Having a mobile device provides a means of communication to ensure safety.
- All mobile devices must remain in lockers all day (8:45 - 3:35), unless there is a specific request from a teacher for them to be used in a lesson.
- Sixth form students may use mobile devices in the Sixth Form Centre for the purpose of listening to music whilst studying or for research purposes; not for using social media or other communication. Their use should not be disruptive to learning and must stop if requested by a member of staff.

Sanctions

- If the policy is not adhered to then the mobile phone will be confiscated by a member of staff and taken to the Reception Office. It will be put in a labelled envelope and stored safely in a locked cupboard and can be collected by the student at the end of the school day. This will be recorded as a Level 1 sanction (1 demerit).
- If there is a repeat of behaviour then this will be recorded as a Level 2 sanction (2 demerits) and the phone can be collected by the student at the end of the school day from the Reception Office.
- Any further repetition will be recorded as a Level 3 sanction and a detention will be issued by the Deputy Head/Assistant Head/PAM. Parents will be called and the phone can only be collected from the Reception Office by parents.

AE Bruton

Updated
25.01.17