

Policy on the Use of Mobile Technology Devices

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Version	Author	Date	Changes
2	SLT	October 2019	No significant changes Minor amendments to reflect behaviour policy framework and school day timings
Distribution			
Essential reading for:			
Information for:		All stakeholders of the school	

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.

This policy aims to address issues associated with mobile device use in school:

- Access to phones during break/lunch can result in a number of instances of inappropriate use:
 - 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.
 - Bullying associated with interaction on social media platforms
- 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 social time playing games, interaction on social media platforms, 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 phones to school. This recognises the demographic of our school, which means that some students travel considerable distances to and from home. Having a mobile phone provides a means of communication to ensure safety.
- For students in year seven to year eleven, mobile phones are not allowed during the school day. They should remain in lockers during the school day from 8.40 – 15.40, during all lessons and social times, unless there is a specific request from a teacher for them to be used in a lesson.
- If a phone is used at an inappropriate time it will be confiscated and can be collected from the reception office at the end of the school day. If this occurs regularly parents will be asked to collect the phone.
- If a student needs to contact a parent, they should go to reception.
- Sixth form students may use mobile devices in the Sixth Form Centre for the purpose of listening to music whilst studying or for learning and research purposes; not for using social media or other communication. Their use should not be disruptive to learning and must stop if requested by supervising staff. Mobile devices must not be used in public areas in

school. This includes corridors, the canteen, grab and go, the LRC, halls, locker areas and in moving between buildings.

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 2 sanction (1 demerit) and parents will be informed.
- Repeated infringement will be recorded as a Level 3 sanction and a detention will be issued by the Head of Year. Parents will be contacted, and the phone can only be collected from the Reception Office by parents.