



Prince Henry's Grammar School
SPECIALIST LANGUAGE COLLEGE



MOBILE PHONE AND MP3 POLICY

The use of mobile phones in school can cause unnecessary parental concern, contribute to sophisticated and nasty bullying and negatively affect structured and focussed learning. In some cases mobile phone use within secondary school environments has created serious child protection concerns. In consideration of this, and with the Government Safeguarding Agenda high on every school's list of priorities, Prince Henry's has taken the decision to toughen our mobile phone guidelines and sanctions. This policy will be active from Monday 28th February 2011 and will reflect the Government guidance provided in the white paper published on the 6th December 2010.

Policy

Mobile Phones and MP3 players should be switched off and out of sight from the moment students enter the school grounds in the morning until they leave the school building at 3:00 p.m.

Whilst carrying an MP3 player is very much a personal decision it could be considered unreasonable to expect students not to carry a mobile phone. Students in our care are safe from the moment they enter the school grounds until the moment they leave. If a student should need to make a phone call within the school grounds they can either:

- Ask a member of staff if they can use the school phone network.
- Ask a member of staff if they can switch their own phone on and make a call, or check their phone in an office away from other students.

Students should not be requesting phone calls and must not use any phone network in school unless the reason is supported by a member of staff.

Sixth Form

Sixth form students should only use their mobile phone for calls in the common room area. When in the library they can use MP3 facilities but this must be through a headset and not on speaker phone. If they wish to use their phone outside these areas they must sign out and leave the site. If any element of this policy is not adhered to staff are expected to confiscate the phone. All other phone rules are in line with the general policy.

MP3 players should not be used anywhere other than in the library or common room. They will be confiscated if they are used out of these two areas. Any student walking around school with earphones in should be challenged and the earphones and attached MP3 player should be confiscated.

Sixth form students may be allowed to use mobile phones and MP3 players for music and data storage in lessons if individual teachers confirm this. They should not place them on show or remove them from their bag until they have been directed to by the member of staff.

Any sixth form student failing to hand a mobile phone over to a member of staff on request must be reported to a member of the sixth form team. The sixth form team will pursue this further.

KS3 & 4 Sanctions

Any student mobile phone or MP3/ear phones that are visible inside the school grounds during normal school hours will be confiscated complete with the sim card, placed in an envelope and securely locked away. If the mobile phone is not seen but it is evident that a student, however discreetly, has used a mobile phone, or has not turned the phone off, we will confiscate the phone complete with sim card. Students will be able to collect their mobile phone/MP3 player on Friday at 3 p.m. from the main office. Staff will not try to establish whether the phone is on or off when confiscating as it should be out of sight in a bag.

Students who refuse to hand the mobile phone/MP3 player over will be removed to isolation until they change their mind or in line with the school policy on refusal. Once the phone is handed over school will keep it for the amount of time, Monday - Friday, that they would have kept it had it been handed over immediately.

All phones held overnight will be clearly identified and stored in the school safe.

Sixth Form Sanctions

If a sixth form student is challenged about incorrect use of a mobile phone/MP3 player then the phone/MP3, complete with sim card, will be confiscated. The phone/MP3 will be returned from the sixth form office at 3:00 p.m. that day.

If a student is challenged and refuses to hand over the mobile phone/MP3 player the member of staff will report this to the sixth form team. Any student refusing to hand their phone over to a member of staff will be excluded from school for one day. Refusal is clearly highlighted in the sixth form planner as an exclusion offence.