



PERSONAL MOBILE DEVICES POLICY

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Introduction

Whilst we recognise the benefits of developing reasonable and responsible habits in regards to technology use, this is not the primary purpose of education, nor is it possible to supervise and moderate students' use of their devices during social times. We take our duty of care to safeguard our children very seriously; our Wi-Fi network is able to block certain sites, however the wide availability of mobile networks means we can no longer guarantee the safety and security of internet access whilst students are in our care. This policy will enable staff to focus on our primary purpose of educating the students and they will have more opportunities to improve their ability to develop their social skills and interact with others.

We understand that many parents and students use their devices to make arrangements before or after College and as a result students are still allowed to bring them onto the site. The College accepts no responsibility for any mobile devices brought into College and those who choose to bring them in are responsible for them and bear the responsibility for any losses.

Mobile phones and other electronic devices are not be seen, heard or used on the College site between 8:20am and 3:00pm. They must be switched off and kept in bags or lockers.¹

¹ *The only exceptions to this rule are:*

- *those students who are permitted to use their devices to support their learning or for monitoring medical conditions;*
- *smart watches that have communication functions switched off.*

Roles and Responsibilities

All Staff will

- Model appropriate behaviours in regards to their mobile phone usage;
- Confiscate any device seen or heard between 8:20am and 3:00pm, place it in an envelope with appropriate details completed, and deliver it to reception where it will be available for collection at the appropriate time (see Appendix A);
- Follow up any clear breaches of this policy which are brought to their attention;
- Apply for special consent from SLT to use mobile devices in lessons where they are integral to the students' learning and there is no alternative available. These lessons will have appropriate signs in place to indicate this consent has been granted.

Reception Staff will

- Record all confiscations on Go4Schools.
- Communicate these to parents/carers, either via phone call, email, from mobiles@lintonvc.org, or letter (see Appendix A).

Students must

- Ensure that their devices are switched off from 8:20am, as they are heading to registration, and remain off until 3:00am. It is not sufficient for the device to be switched to silent.
- Store their devices in their bags or lockers throughout the College day, from 8:20am to 3:00pm. It is not sufficient for the device to be in their pocket.
- Switch off the device and hand it to the member of staff immediately when found to be failing to comply with this policy. Failure to do so will be treated as defiance and may result in additional sanctions.
- Not use their devices for recording any images (still or moving) or accessing/viewing inappropriate content whilst on the College site.
- Sign the College agreement before using any personal device permitted to support their learning. (see Appendix B)

Parents/Carers should

- Remind their children of this policy if they permit them to bring a mobile device into College;
- Contact the College reception via telephone, or email, if an emergency arises or they need to get an urgent message to their child. Direct contact with students via a mobile phone is a breach of this policy and the 'Home-School Communications Policy'.

- Acknowledge any communication from the College with regards to a confiscation and notify the College of any safety concerns regarding sanctions for any possible future transgressions by their child.
- Support the College when transgressions of this policy occur.

Visitors will

- Support the College by using their mobile in a responsible manner.

Legislation & Guidance

The legal position of the College in relation to confiscation of mobile devices is in line with [Searching, Screening and Confiscation](#) advice issued by the Department for Education.



Appendix A **Confiscation Process and Communications to Parents/Carers**

When it is necessary to confiscate a device, this will be left at reception for collection as detailed below. This confiscation process **covers one academic year.**

All of the following will be logged on Go4schools and emails will be sent to the parent/carer. Any refusal to comply

Offence	Actions	Messages on Go4schools
1 st	Confiscation Until the end of the day, when the student can collect the device.	Following today's confiscation, we would appreciate your support with this and ask that you discuss the Personal Mobile Devices Policy with your child; this can be found on the College's website. If they are likely to forget to comply with these expectations we suggest they set a weekday alarm for 8:18am to give them time to switch off their device and put it in their bag or locker. If this happens again they will also receive an After-School Detention as well as the confiscation.
2 nd	Confiscation Until the end of the day, when the student can collect the device. Sanction Afterschool Detention	Following today's confiscation, we would appreciate your support with this and ask that you discuss the Personal Mobile Devices Policy with your child again. If they are likely to forget to comply with these expectations we suggest they set a weekday alarm for 8:18am to give them time to switch off their device and put it in their bag or locker. If this happens again they will be expected to hand their device into reception for the next five College days and receive an After-School Detention.
3 rd	Confiscation Until the end of the day, when the student can collect the device and the device is to be handed into reception daily for one full week and collected at the end of the day. Afterschool Detention	Following today's confiscation, we would appreciate your support with this and remind your child that if this happens again their device will be confiscation for a full week, unless you are able to collect it any earlier. In addition to this they would receive a Principal's Detention.
4 th	Confiscation	Following today's confiscation, we would appreciate your support with this and remind your child that if they fail to meet our expectations again this academic

	<p>Confiscated for a full week, when the student can collect the device. Early collection by parent/carer permitted.</p> <p>Sanction Principal's Detention</p>	<p>year their device would be confiscated for one full week without any early collection. In addition to this they would receive a Principal's Detention.</p>
5 th	<p>Confiscation Confiscated for a full week with no early collection by parent/carer.</p> <p>Sanction Principal's Detention</p>	<p>Following today's confiscation, we would appreciate your support with this. If they fail to meet our expectations again this academic year their device would be confiscated for one full week without any early collection, they would be placed in isolation for 1 full day and be expected to hand their device into reception for one full week.</p>
6 ^{th*}	<p>Confiscation Confiscated for a full week with no early collection by parent/carer and then the device is to be handed into reception daily for one full week and collected at the end of the day.</p> <p>Sanction 1 day in Isolation</p>	<p>Following today's confiscation, we will consider any further failure to meet our expectations are persistent defiance and treat this in accordance with our behaviour policy.</p>

*Further transgressions will lead to additional sanctions for persistent defiance and a meeting/conversation with parents/carers may be necessary.

Mobile Devices are any portable technology that has the ability to access the internet, send or receive messages/calls record images or play games/music; this includes smartwatches.

Appendix B

Use of Personal Technology to Support Learning - Student Agreement

Name: _____

Tutor Group: _____

Following assessments carried out by the Learning Support Department it has been agreed that I may use a laptop/tablet, henceforth referred to as a 'device', to support my learning. This may be used in class when appropriate and practical, and for any tests/exams. This will be considered my 'normal way of working'.

This permission is granted and must be used according to the conditions below:

- The device is to be used in lessons for educational purposes only and its use will be directed by the teacher.
- The device should only be used to support learning and connected to the Internet via the College's Student Wi-Fi network. This will keep both myself and my work safe - my internet use will be filtered and monitored and my work will be backed up every evening. The exception to this is when specific software is only available on the device.
- Work must be provided for the teacher in the form requested and it is my responsibility to ensure the teacher receives it, whether this is by printing or emailing the work. This applies to all work, both in lessons and home learning.
- I understand that the use of the device is also covered by the 'Code of conduct for the use of technology' and that 'The College accepts no responsibility for any mobile technologies brought in and those who choose to bring them into college are responsible for them and bear the responsibility for any losses' (see Student Handbook).
- I understand that where a College computer is available I will use this unless I need specific software that is only on my device.
- Inappropriate use of my device in lessons will be dealt with according to the school behaviour policy. Repeated misuse could lead to more serious consequences, such as loss of internet or a review of my access which could include removal of this support.
- It is my responsibility to ensure that the device is fully functioning, including fully charged, and virus-free ready for use every day.

I have read the agreement, including the related policies, and agree to adhere to them.

Signed: _____

(Student)

Date: _____

I support the use of a laptop for my child and agree to the conditions outlined above.

Signed: _____

(Parent)

Date: _____