

The Bellbird Primary School



Pupils' Use of Mobile Phones Policy

March 2019

(To be reviewed March 2022)

The Bellbird Primary School recognises that parents may wish their children to have mobile phones for use in cases of emergency. However, mobiles can be used inappropriately and are potentially targets for theft and bullying. The Governing Body has, therefore, adopted the following policy which will be rigorously enforced.

Mobile phones **should not** be brought onto school premises.

However, should there be a specific reason why a pupil would need to bring a mobile phone to school to use off site at the end of the day, parents should send a written request to the Headteacher. The phone will be switched off and stored in the school office until the end of the school day.

Mobile phones should not be taken on school visits away from school premises, including residential visits.

Pupils who ignore this policy and use a mobile on school premises without permission will be required to hand over their phone to a member of staff and parents will be asked to collect it subsequently from the School Office.

If a member of staff of the school has any suspicion that a mobile phone has unsuitable material stored on it, pupils will be required to hand over the phone to a member of staff and parents will be asked to collect it from a senior member of staff

In circumstances where there is a suspicion that the material on the mobile may provide evidence relating to a criminal offence, the phone will be handed over to the Police for further investigation. Parents will need to recover the phone from the Police in such circumstances.

Pupils remain responsible for their own property and will bear the responsibility of any loss.

Any failure to comply with the above guidelines may result in normal disciplinary action to be taken up to and including the consideration of permanent exclusion of the pupil concerned.

Parents should be aware that whilst there are obvious benefits to pupils having a mobile phone in terms of safety, there are also some associated risks such as potential for theft, bullying and inappropriate contact, including grooming by unsuitable persons.