



Mobile Phone Use

Pool Hayes Academy accepts that mobile phone technology is an integral part of modern life. We acknowledge that, when used appropriately, mobile phones can be a vital and useful resource. However, we have a strict policy around mobile phone use which ensures uninterrupted quality teaching and learning in the academy can take place. We do, however, understand that some parents and carers want their child to have a mobile phone whilst travelling to and from the academy, for safety reasons.

If a student chooses to bring a mobile phone to the academy they must be switched off and kept in their bag for the duration of the academy day, including at lunch and break times.

- Students also must keep mobile phones switched off and in their bags when representing the academy off site or on academy visits.
- Students are not to take mobile phones into exams, including controlled assessments. Phones should be handed to staff members for safe return after the assessment.
- If a student does not adhere to Pool Hayes Academy expectations and is found with a mobile phone switched on and/or out of their bag at any point in the academy day, the phone will be confiscated by a member of staff, the incident logged and a detention given. The parent or carer will then be contacted to arrange a suitable time for the phone to be collected. The academy will not return the mobile phone to the student.
- Any member of Pool Hayes Academy staff is authorised to and has the legal right to confiscate a mobile phone, if seen on site.
- Pool Hayes Academy does not accept responsibility for loss or damage to mobile phones brought into the academy.
- Should a student need to make a phone call (emergencies only) he/she can ask the student support office to make the call for them.
- Should parents or carers need to contact their child during the academy day, they should call reception and a message will be sent to their child.
- Students are not to misuse their mobile phone in relation to any other student or member of staff. Should any prying, bullying or intimidation take place, the school will investigate and apply appropriate sanctions, in accordance with the Pool Hayes Academy Behaviour, Child Protection and E-Safety policies. The academy also reserves the right to involve the police.
- Pool Hayes Academy recognises that mobile technology can be a useful educational and, at times, safeguarding tool. For this reason, students may, at times, be given permission by a member of staff to use their mobile phone. This may involve taking photographs of work and the filming of performances or examined work. Where this happens, the teacher will apply the Behaviour, Child protection and E-Safety policies appropriately. Students will not expect that, because they use mobile technology infrequently in one lesson, this allows them to do so in other lessons.
- If a student feels ill or distressed, he or she should inform a member of staff. If necessary, a member of staff will contact home. We have a number of qualified first aiders on site who will support, if appropriate. Students must not make direct contact to their parents and carers on their mobile phones.