



INTEGRITY • COMMITMENT • RESPECT

ST JOHN'S
SCHOOL

St John's School Policy

Mobile Phones

SJS JULY 26

Date Created:	July 2026
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Approved by:	Colin Guyton - Head Teacher

Purpose

At St John's School, we are committed to providing a safe, calm and purposeful learning environment where all students can thrive. In line with the Department for Education's guidance and the safeguarding principles set out in *Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2026*, the school operates as a **mobile phone-free environment** during the school day.

This policy aims to:

- promote the safeguarding and wellbeing of all students;
- minimise distractions to learning;
- reduce the risks associated with cyberbullying, online harm and the unauthorised taking or sharing of photographs, videos and recordings;
- encourage positive face-to-face interactions throughout the school day.

Scope

This policy applies to all students from the moment they enter the school site until they leave at the end of the school day.

Bringing Mobile Phones to School

Students may bring a mobile phone to school for use when travelling to and from school.

Upon entering the school site, all mobile phones must:

- be **switched off completely** (not silent or vibrate);
- remain switched off throughout the school day;
- be stored securely in the student's school bag;
- not be accessed until the student has left the school site at the end of the school day.

Students must not use or access mobile phones:

- before registration;
- during lessons;

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- between lessons;
- at breaktime or lunchtime;
- whilst moving around the school site;
- during enrichment activities or educational visits unless expressly authorised by a member of staff.

Smartwatches and Other Devices

Any smartwatch or wearable device capable of making or receiving calls, sending or receiving messages, accessing the internet, taking photographs or recording audio or video will be treated as a mobile phone under this policy.

Confiscation

To ensure the policy is applied fairly and consistently, **any mobile phone that is seen, heard, accessed or used during the school day will be confiscated immediately by a member of staff.**

Staff are not required to determine whether the phone was being used appropriately. Simply having a mobile phone visible, audible or accessible during the school day constitutes a breach of this policy.

Confiscated devices will:

- be taken to the school office;
- be stored securely;
- be returned to the student at the end of the school day.

Repeated Breaches

Where a student repeatedly breaches this policy, the school may apply further sanctions in accordance with the Behaviour Policy. These may include:

- parental contact;
- detention or other appropriate behaviour sanctions;
- parents or carers being required to collect the device from school;
- additional measures where persistent non-compliance continues.

Exceptions

The Headteacher may authorise exceptions where there is:

- a medical need;
- an identified SEND requirement;
- a safeguarding reason;
- another exceptional circumstance.

Any agreed exception will be documented and communicated to relevant staff.

Contacting Students During the School Day

Parents and carers who need to contact their child during the school day should do so via the school office.

Similarly, students who need to contact home will be supported to do so through the school office.

Responsibility for Personal Property

Students bring mobile phones to school at their own risk. Whilst the school will take reasonable care of confiscated devices, it cannot accept responsibility for loss, theft or damage to personal electronic devices brought onto the school site, except where this results from the school's negligence.

Related Policies & DCS Directives

This policy should be read alongside:

- Behaviour Policy
- Safeguarding Children and Young People in DCS Schools and Settings

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner if required, following changes to statutory guidance or Department for Education expectations.