



Principles

At Nether Stowe, the welfare and safety of our students is paramount. The purpose of this policy is to promote safe and appropriate practice, whilst preventing unacceptable use of mobile phones and personal electronic devices by students / staff. As a safeguarding measure, this will protect the School's students and staff from undesirable materials, filming, intimidation or harassment.

- The School accepts that there may be particular circumstances in which a parent wishes their child to have a mobile phone for their journey to and from school.
- Where parents need to contact their child(ren) during the school day, they should do so only through the School's telephone system (via Reception) and not via student mobile phones.
- Emergency contact with parents / carers can be made either through a request to the tutor, via Reception or the two Pastoral offices at break and / or lunch.
- The School strongly advises that mobile phones should not be brought into school at all.
- Where a mobile phone is brought into school, it is entirely at the student's and parents' own risk. The School accepts no responsibility for the loss, theft or damage of any phone or electronic device brought into school. (Ref: Section 94, Education and Inspections Act 2006 states that "where a teacher disciplines a pupil by confiscating an item, neither the teacher nor the school will be liable for any loss or damage to that item. Equally, there is no statutory liability on schools for items that go missing in other ways.")
- Mobile phones and devices which are brought into school must be turned off (**not placed on silent**) and stored out of sight immediately the student **arrives at the school gate**. They must remain turned off and out of sight until the student has left the school site at the end of the day.
- Any student caught filming another person (and/or uploading images or video onto the Internet) will have the phone confiscated. It will be treated as a disciplinary matter and parents will be informed. If the action is repeated or is of a serious nature, the matter will be treated as a serious disciplinary issue, which may lead to a fixed term exclusion
- The School reserves the right to inform the Safeguarding Board and / or the Police where there is a reasonable suspicion that it may contain undesirable material, including those which promote pornography, violence or bullying.
- As young adults, Sixth Form students are permitted to use mobile phones within the Sixth Form common room. Under no circumstances should calls be made or received during lessons. Phones cannot be used during study periods in Space.
- Staff are expected to model the mobile phone policy.



The School Policy for student found with a mobile phone is as follows:

- If a mobile phone is seen by a member of staff, that member of staff will be required to confiscate it immediately and take the phone to Reception for secure storage (in a locked box) at the earliest opportunity. The phone will be kept securely until that point.
- Students may collect the phone at the end of the school day.
- If there is a second confiscation within the same **half term** the phone will be kept in secure storage until parents come into school to meet with a member of the Senior Leadership Team.
- During this meeting, parents and student will be reminded of school policy and informed of the next stage.
- In such cases of repeated breach of the policy, the pupil will be required to hand in their mobile phone to reception each morning and collected at the end of each day.
- If a student refuses to hand over their mobile phone, the student will be placed in internal exclusion and parents will be contacted. Parents will bring their child into school the next day for a meeting with a member of the Senior Leadership Team. From then onwards, the mobile phone will be handed in to reception each morning and collected at the end of each day.

The decision of the Senior Leadership Team is final.