



Enfield County School for Girls

## **Enfield County School for Girls Mobile Phone and Electronic Media Device Policy 2023-2024**

For students in years 7-11 all mobile devices (and ear phones) are banned inside the school and outside, in the vicinity of the school, Rosemary Avenue, Holly Walk, Church Lane and the shops and bus stop areas close to each site whilst in school uniform. 'Out of sight & Out of sound' is the message given to students and that is the basis for this policy statement. This policy statement reflects our school behaviour for learning policy and practice.

Members of staff regularly conduct morning and end of the day duty at the school gates and in the local community to support the smooth start and end of the school day. A student found to be using a mobile device (with or without ear phones) whilst in school or the above areas of the local community will be spoken to and is likely to be also sanctioned in line with our mobile policy and practice. Refusal to follow direct instructions to put away a mobile phone or remove ear phones could result in a mobile phone (and ear phones where relevant) removed on or off the school premises and a suspension.

A confiscated mobile phone will have to be collected by a parent or carer of the student. A meeting time or telephone call will be scheduled at the convenience of the school for the parent or carer to speak with a senior member of staff or Progress and Achievement Leader to discuss the incident prior to the phone being returned.

Please note that it is inappropriate for a parent or carer to come into school and demand for the phone to be handed over. This will not be possible and our school visitors and communication policy should be referred to in relation to appropriate behaviour while on the school site.

A situation resulting in a student's phone being confiscated on more than one occasion will be likely to result in a suspension(s) as a direct result of undermining both our school mobile phone and behaviour policy.

If there is a reason to suspect inappropriate content resulting from the use of phones, e.g. filming or social media misuse in relation to other students or members of the public not in keeping with the values of our school or which contribute to poor relationships, we will not investigate this as a school but will advise the affected party to report this to the police and may ask the student to show us the messages/ videos so that the parents of any other students involved can be informed.



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If a parent or carer decides that their daughter should have a phone with her for emergency purposes it must be switched off and kept in her school bag or inside her zipped up blazer pocket 'out of sight and sound' at all times in accordance with the above guidance.

Any phones brought into school will be the responsibility of the student and we will not therefore spend school time related to any stolen or lost property of this nature.

Students are able to access the school office during and at the end of each day if there is a necessity to contact a parent or carer and, likewise, parents and carers can contact the school where necessary.

For students in years 12 and 13, the expectation is that mobile phones and earphones will be switched off and out of sight prior to entering the school site and may only be used on site in the student common room area.

For year 12 and 13 students who do not abide by this, the phone may be confiscated and returned at a later date.

It is the school view that the measures outlined in this policy will support our students in further developing their social communication and interaction skills with each other. We also believe that it will support our students' personal safety on their way to and from school and that it is likely to support wellbeing and mental health and reduce over-reliance on phones and social media.

Guidance in this policy was updated in July 2019 following consultation with parents and carers.

Ms Gumbrell  
Headteacher