

Mobile phone policy

Mobile phones and smartphones are powerful learning tools which, when used correctly, can enhance learning and independence. They provide instantaneous access to a vast array of information and allow students to communicate in a variety of creative and innovative ways. Their universality in society means that students should be guided in their use and discussions about opportunities and risks should be fostered.

We also recognise that smartphones can, if not used properly, be a distraction to learning and a barrier to the development of social relationships and negotiation. The temptation to hide behind a screen when faced with a new or challenging social situation is great and needs addressing.

Therefore, the Langton has the following mobile phone policy:

- 1) Mobile phones and smartphones are allowed in school.
- 2) They are expensive devices and students must accept responsibility for their condition and safekeeping. The school will only accept responsibility when a phone has been handed over to a teacher for safekeeping or when confiscated.
- 3) They must not be used in classrooms unless the teacher specifically requests their use. They should be kept in pockets and if used, or heard, without permission, will be confiscated and placed in reception. Headphones should also be kept in pockets and should not be visible and will be confiscated if seen. Phones should be kept either on silent or switched off to avoid distraction.
- 4) The use of phones and headphones is prohibited in the hall and dining area. They will be confiscated if seen. This is because we believe that students should be encouraged to spend their break and lunch times outside and active.
- 5) Phones should not be used in the corridors. They should be kept in pockets and if used without permission, will be confiscated and placed in reception. Headphones should also be kept in pockets and should not be visible and will be confiscated if seen.
- 6) When phones or headphones are confiscated they will be placed at reception, where they will be kept until 3:45. Confiscated items cannot be collected before the end of school. Students do not have the right to ask for them before 3:45.

SP, July 2018