

Ysgol Glan Y Môr.

Policy on Mobile Phones.

Many pupils own mobile phones and this presents numerous challenges to the school. It is not practical to ban mobile phones completely, and it is not possible for us to collect phones at the beginning of the day and return them at the end of the day.

This policy allows pupils to bring mobile phones to school subject to the following guidelines.

1. Mobile phones may not be used for any purposes (including phoning, sending text messages, using the internet, taking photos or filming videos) in any lessons.
2. Inappropriate use of mobile phones is not permitted during school breaks / lunch breaks.
3. Mobile phones should be switched off and kept out of sight in all lessons.
4. If a pupil breaks the above rules the teacher may confiscate the mobile phone and keep it in a secure place until the end of the lesson (if it was a minor disturbance) or keep it in the main school office until the end of the day. Phones will be returned to the individual at the end of the school day if the incident was a one-off incident.
5. If a pupil regularly breaks the rules the school (through the Head of Year) will contact the home and ask the parent / guardian to come to the school to discuss the matter and collect the phone.
6. Mobile phones are banned from examination rooms.

The Law:

Under Section 1 of the Malicious Communications Act 1998, it is an offence to send a suspicious, indecent or threatening message to any person, whether it is a written letter or an electronic message. It is also an offence to send such messages by phone.

The penalty for such an offence is up to 6 months in prison, and/or a fine of up to £5,000.

Furthermore, if a message implies that violence will be used against the defendant, the penalty can be up to 5 years in prison. If the message is racist the penalty can be up to 7 years.

Emergencies:

If pupils need to contact a parent / guardian they may use the school telephone free of charge. (Pupils should not contact parents / guardians directly by mobile phone to say that they are unwell and need to come home. The pupil must always see the Head of Year or someone in the office before phoning home.)

If a parent / guardian needed to contact a pupil urgently he / she may contact the school office and leave a message. The office staff will ensure that the pupil receives the message.

Responsibility for mobile phones:

The school does not accept any responsibility for incidents of theft, loss or damage to mobile phones while on the site and during usual school hours. It is the parent / guardian's responsibility to ensure that the equipment is insured.