



## **Mobile Phone /Electronic Device Policy**

### **Scope**

Teignmouth Community School seeks to maintain an environment conducive to learning - one which safeguards the rights of other pupils to be educated, and fulfills the responsibility of the school to ensure an orderly climate for learning.

In order to promote effective teaching and learning during lessons and to maintain a safe and appropriate ethos around the school, Teignmouth Community School does not permit the use of mobile phones / electronic devices.

### **Requirements.**

Teignmouth Community School maintains a strict no mobile phone use / electronic device policy for students.

If parents would like their child to have a phone / electronic device for the journey to and from school, the device must be switched off and kept out of sight at all times. All devices should be put in bags before entering the school site in the morning, and be kept in their bag until the student has exited the site at the end of the school day. Students may only ever use their device on school premises in the event they are liaising with home after an extra-curricular activity. In the circumstance whereby emergency communication between the student and family is required, this will be done by the Student Support office. Non-emergency phone calls can be made by students via use of the pay phone, which is situated in the Student Support office, at a cost of 20p. Students can use this phone at break, lunchtime or after school.

If a student is found to be using a mobile phone / electronic device on school premises, the phone will be confiscated and handed to the RTL team by the member of staff. Details of the incident will be logged on the student's file, and the phone / device will be retained for 24 hours. The student will be expected to complete a 24 hours RTL isolation, in line with the school behavior policy. The device will be returned to the student by RTL staff as soon as the RTL isolation is complete.

Under the terms of the Education and Inspection Act 2006 (EIA 2006) schools can legally include confiscation of pupils' property as a sanction in their behaviour policy. The confiscation must be proportionate, necessary in a democratic society and in pursuance of a legitimate aim. The school upholds that the aim pursued in confiscating electronic devices is to maintain an environment conducive to learning - one which safeguards the rights of other pupils to be educated, and fulfills the responsibility of the school to ensure an orderly climate for learning.

Our retention policy is proportionate to the circumstances of the case, and in accordance with the Act, takes into account the pupil's age, any special educational needs and any disability.

In some circumstances it may be reasonable for a member of staff to ask a pupil to reveal a message or a photograph, for instance for the purpose of establishing whether cyber bullying has occurred. If the pupil refuses then the member of staff will not enforce the instruction, nor search through a device without the pupil's permission. The member of staff can, however, legitimately issue a disciplinary penalty of failure to follow a reasonable instruction.

The school cannot be held responsible for the loss or damage of any electronic item that the student chooses to bring on to school premises. Students may choose to hand their devices in to the Student Support office for safekeeping before registration and collect it after 3.15pm. All devices would be stored in separately labelled clear cases and locked to ensure safe keeping.

### Key Terms and Definitions

ACRONYM	TERM	DEFINITION

### Amendment Record

VERSION #	DATE	AMENDED BY	NATURE OF CHANGE
3	27/03/2014	J. Moore	Updated sanctions
4	05/05/2017	Miss K Ray	Update of policy and change of sanction.
5	11/05/2017	Miss K Ray	Update to sanction.