

Mobile Phones & Related Technologies Policy

(Pastoral Care)

2018

Ashgrove Primary School



Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together



A PASTORAL CARE POLICY

Agree Date	Review Date	Person Responsible
2018	2020	ICT Leader (K Flaherty)

This Policy is intended to ensure consistency across the school in terms of expectations from all staff and pupils with regards to the use of Mobile Phones on school premises.

At Ashgrove Primary School we fully acknowledge a parents right to allow their child to bring a mobile phone to school. However, as the quality of learning and teaching in our school is our core concern we positively discourage pupils from bringing mobile phones with them.

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

As a Rights Respecting School we promote the UNCRC. We acknowledge that all children have the Right to access information which is reliable (Article 17) and they also have the Right to an education (Article 28). This policy aims to promote the Rights of all learners in Ashgrove Primary School.

AGREED PROCEDURE:

- ❖ If pupils bring mobile phones to school, the phones must remain switched off while pupils are in class, the school building and the school grounds- this includes break and lunchtime.
- ❖ Should parents need to contact pupils, or vice versa, this should be done following the usual school procedures; via the school office 9084 8734 or email info@ashgroveps.newtownabbey.ni.sch.uk
- ❖ Where a Mobile Phone is kept on, or a pupil is found by a member of staff to be using a mobile phone, it will be taken from the pupil, handed to a senior member of staff who will record the name of the child. The mobile phone will be stored securely in the School Office. The pupil may collect the phone at the end of the school day.
- ❖ Phones must **NEVER** be used to photograph children within the school. There are children in school whose parents have opted for 'no photographs' in the consent forms.
- ❖ If a pupil is found taking photographs or video footage with a mobile phone of either other pupils or teachers, this will be regarded as a serious offence and disciplinary action will be taken according to the school's Pastoral Care & Discipline Procedures.
- ❖ If images of other pupils or teachers have been taken, the phone will not be returned to the pupil until a parent can collect the phone and delete the images.
- ❖ Parents are advised that Ashgrove Primary School accepts no liability for the loss or damage to mobile phones which are brought into the school or school grounds.

RELATED TECHNOLOGIES

The procedures applying to the inappropriate use of mobile phones, apply equally to the inappropriate use of related technologies with similar capabilities, e.g. ipads, messaging, recording (audio & video), photography etc.

EXEMPTIONS

Exemptions of this policy can only be approved by the Principal and then only in exceptional circumstances. Pupils may be allowed to use these technologies under the specific guidance of their teacher on a specific day e.g. the last day of term.

CONCLUSION

This policy will be reviewed in the summer term of the academic year 2020 or amended in advance of this timescale as appropriate in line with appropriate guidance/legislation.

LINKS WITH OTHER POLICIES

- ❖ ICT Policy
- ❖ Social Media Policy
- ❖ Online Safety Policy
- ❖ Safeguarding Policy
- ❖ Pastoral Care Policy
- ❖ Staff Code of Conduct