Garelochhead Primary School

Mobile Phones and Devices Policy

We have produced this leaflet to share our policy on the use of mobile phones in school. We always appreciate the co-operation of parents and carers in ensuring that school rules and policies are followed by all pupils. For the purposes of this policy, all references to ‘mobile phones’ should be taken to include smartphones, smart watches and other electronic devices with camera or communication capabilities.

Use of mobile phones and devices presents a number of problems including:

* use of mobile phones and devices with cameras may lead to child protection and data protection issues with regard to inappropriate photographs or distribution of images
* mobile phones and devices may pose problems in school with regards to discipline and potential bullying
* access to mobile phones during the school day would be a distraction for the individual and their peers
* mobile phones and devices are valuable items and are vulnerable to theft

We acknowledge that mobile phones have a part to play in securing children and young peoples' personal safety before and after school and on journeys to and from school. However, during the school day there is no need for children to have a mobile phone. In the event of an emergency or accident, the school office will notify parents. Similarly, parents are requested to contact the school office if an urgent message is to be given to their child.

**Our Policy**

1. When a pupil does bring a mobile phone to school, the phone must remain switched off during the school day and may not be used, for any purpose, on school premises, excursions or activities.

2. A safe place is available in each class for storage of mobile phones during the school day.

3. It is each pupil’s responsibility to ensure their phone is stored in the safe place and to ask for it at the end of the day.

4. If a pupil is found using a mobile phone or device, for any purpose, the phone will be confiscated from the pupil and given back to them at the end of the day and the parent or carer contacted.

Please be aware, the school cannot accept responsibility for mobile phones or devices which are lost, damaged or stolen in school or in school bags. Pupils bring phones to school at their own risk.