

Cultercullen School - Use of Mobile Phones

At Cultercullen School the carrying of mobile phones to school by pupils is discouraged but not banned, as there may be circumstances when mobile phones used appropriately can enhance pupil safety.

However parents and pupils should be aware that school will not be responsible for loss or damage to a pupil's phone and it is advisable that appropriate "all risks" insurance cover is taken out to cover such a situation, should you deem it necessary for your child to carry a phone to school.

Also there are restrictions on use of mobile phones during the school day, to minimise the risk of disruption to lessons and to limit the possibility of bullying or other unacceptable behaviour.

- Phones must be switched off and kept in pupils own bag from 9.15 am – 3.15pm
- All communications between pupil and parents between those hours should take place in the normal way via the school office or directly using the school landline. Older pupils are often allowed to use the school phone to contact parents.
- No photographs may be taken unless there is prior agreement with teaching staff and it is for the purposes of teaching and learning
- Restrictions as above also apply on school visits, trips etc

If a phone is used to engage in illegal activities such as text bullying, filming, circulating inappropriate images etc, the normal course of action will be to report this to the appropriate authorities.

If a pupil does not comply with the restrictions on phone use, the phone will be confiscated until the end of the day and parents will be contacted to agree an appropriate strategy. If photos have been taken, return of the phone is conditional on all inappropriate audio/visual footage being deleted.

Repeated misuse of a mobile phone will result in withdrawal of permission to take a mobile phone to school.

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