



Ysgol Clywedog

Ready, Respectful, Responsible

Mobile Phone Policy

Date Policy formally approved by Governing Body/Committee:	July 2025
Date Policy becomes effective:	September 2025
Review Date(s):	July 2026
Issue No:	1
Is this Local Authority or School Policy	School
Is this a statutory or recommended policy/document	Recommended
Is this a new or a revised policy	New
Signed (Headteacher/School)	Mr S Ellis
Signed (Chair of Governing Body / Chair of Committee)	Mrs P Wood

Rationale

In line with our commitment to creating an environment where every student can thrive—socially, emotionally, and academically—we are introducing a ban on mobile phone use during the school day. This decision is grounded in feedback from parents and growing evidence from Estyn and other sources, that reducing mobile phone use in schools has a **significantly positive impact on, behaviour, health, wellbeing, focus and academic outcomes**. Limiting mobile phone use is a feature of the most effective behaviour policies in schools across the UK, supporting calm, focused and respectful learning environments.

Beyond academic outcomes, mobile phone bans have been linked to improvements in student mental health. The *Children's Commissioner for England* (2023) reported that reducing screen time during the school day contributes to **better emotional regulation and lowers levels of anxiety and peer-related pressure**—particularly around social media use.

By implementing a clear and consistent mobile phone policy, we aim to:

- Improve student concentration and reduce classroom distractions.
- Minimise instances of bullying or social conflict that may occur through digital platforms.
- Encourage face-to-face social interaction, building stronger peer relationships.
- Create a more inclusive and equitable environment where all students can engage fully in school life, free from the pressures of online status and comparison.

This is not simply about restriction—it is about **protection, productivity and the promotion of purposeful learning**. Our aim is to support students in developing **healthy boundaries with technology while ensuring school remains a space where they feel safe, respected and are ready to learn**.

Implementation

To achieve these benefits, mobile phones and electronic devices are not permitted for use on the school site. This means your child's device must **remain off and out of sight between the hours of 8.40am and 3.00pm**.

- Pupils must not have their mobile phones on or in use during the school day. They must be off and in their bag at all times, as soon as the school day starts.
- Should a parent/guardian wish to contact their child during the day, then they should call Reception on 01978 346800 and a message will be delivered to the pupil via the Pastoral Team. In addition, should a pupil need to contact their parent/guardian then they must come to the Pastoral team and they will make arrangements for this to happen.

- Pupils with medical (e.g. monitoring diabetes), additional needs (as approved by the ALNCo) or young carers (ID card as pass) will be issued with a pass and a safe space at break and/or lunch time if required. Passes should be used appropriately for the purpose they were intended.
- Should pupils be caught with their phone out, the phone will be confiscated and taken to Reception for the child to collect at the end of the day. Persistent misuse (3 times) will result in a parent/guardian collecting the phone from school, at their convenience and a further sanction put in place (see below).

Adherence to this policy is crucial for health and wellbeing and to maintain the positive learning environment we strive for, to help your child “Be the best that they can be”. We are firm in our commitment to upholding these standards consistently and fairly for all:

Mobile Phone - Process

We, of course, will help to support pupils within the school day to understand the benefits and adhere to the policy. However, in the unlikely event that pupils do not adhere, the following process will be followed by school staff.

Step 1:

Immediate Confiscation: Any pupil found in possession of a mobile phone or electronic device, or using it, on school premises between 8.40am and 3.00pm, will have their device confiscated immediately.

First breach: For a first breach, the phone will be secured in the Reception area office and can be collected by the pupil at the end of the day.

Second breach: Upon a second instance, the pupil may collect their phone at the end of the day, but parents/guardians will be contacted to advise that a third confiscation will require parental collection.

Third breach and persistent breaches: For a third offence or persistent breaches of this policy, parents/guardians will be required to collect the phone directly from school Reception at their convenience. Additionally, these persistent breaches may result in further school-based sanctions, such as detention, time spent in the Reflection Room, or in extreme cases, a fixed-term exclusion, to ensure the integrity of our policy and the well-being of the school community.

Regularly discussing the benefits of reduced screen time with pupils at home and in school will help the school implement this important policy. Partnership between all stakeholders is invaluable in ensuring a focused and positive educational experience for all.