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OCTOBER 2019

REVIEW DATE:
OCTOBER 2020



MOBILE PHONE POLICY

DUIHS

Version: 1

Drafted by:

To be reviewed (annually):

OCTOBER 2019

Dr Dawud Bone

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Mobile Phone Policy

Aims and objectives

At Darul Uloom Islamic High School we understand the concerns that parents/carers may have for their child's safety and welfare. We are aware of the importance to parents of being able to contact their child in emergencies and for other reasons when they are travelling and likewise, for the child to contact their parents/carers. For these reasons, the school allows pupils to bring in mobile phones into the school. However, the school also values the Islamic ethos of the school and is aware that at times mobile phones can be a disturbance during lessons and prayer time. Therefore, pupils are only allowed mobile phones in school if they have prior permission from their parents and pupils will not be allowed to retain their phone during the school day.

Parents are asked to only sign the consent form if they believe a phone is essential for their child's safety in travelling between home and school. The school recommends strongly that only a simple phone should be provided and not a smartphone. Smartphones provide pupils with unregulated access to extreme and unethical material. They also greatly increase risks of assault and robbery as they are much more appealing to criminals.

How this will be implemented

Pupils who are in possession of a mobile phone need to give their permission letters to the school administrator along with their mobile phones as soon as they come into school. The administrator will then lock them up safely. Pupils will only be allowed to use their phones in an emergency and any calls that are made will be monitored by a member of staff (this is likely to be the administrator or a member of the SLT).

Misuse

If a pupil is found with a phone during the school day it will be confiscated and will only be returned to the parent who must visit the school office for this purpose. If a pupil repeatedly brings in a phone without consent, the phone will be confiscated and only returned at the end of the academic term.

Right to Inspect a Pupil's Phone

Based on DfE's guidance; '*Searching, screening and confiscation*', Darul Uloom Islamic High School holds the right to inspect a student's mobile phone without parental consent if there is reason to believe it has been used to 'commit an offence or cause personal injury or damage to property'. Offences include issues related to Data Protection breaches or safeguarding concerns.'

The person responsible for over-seeing this

Form tutors are responsible for making sure that pupils in their form groups adhere to this policy. If a pupil is found with a phone during the school day it

will be confiscated and will only be returned to the parent who must visit the school office for this purpose. If a pupil repeatedly brings in a phone without consent, the phone will be confiscated and only returned at the end of the academic term.

The school administrator will be allocated the job of looking after mobile phones for pupils from all form groups. If a pupil needs to use their phone in an emergency they will be referred to the administrator.

How this will be reviewed and by whom

This policy will be reviewed annually by the SLT.