

REVIEWED:
SEPTEMBER 2022

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SEPTEMBER 2024



MOBILE PHONE POLICY

DUIHS

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, and even an impact upon their education. Therefore, pupils attending the school for the duration of the education at DUIHS *must not* possess a *smart phone*.

If a mobile phone is required, 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). Calls that need to be made will generally be made through the school office.

Misuse

If a pupil is found in possession of a smart phone, it will be confiscated and will be retained for the year. Due to a failure of admissions agreement, pupils possessing a smart phone may be subject to exclusion, parents will be called for a meeting. The school recognises a need for the transition to settle. As such, with 2022-23 being the first academic year of this policy's inception, pupils will be given the opportunity to adjust to the expectation.

Right to Inspect a Pupil's Phone

Where a phone is confiscated, 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.'

Responsibility

All staff are responsible for making sure that pupils adhere to this policy. If a pupil is found with a phone during the school day, it must be confiscated and handed into a member of the SLT.

The school administrator will be allocated the job of looking after mobile phone – applies only to those using non-smart phones.