



HALEWOOD
ACADEMY

WE SEEK THE BEST

Mobile Devices & Confiscation of Items 2023-2024

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Academy Link: Mrs N Cross

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I INTRODUCTION:

- 1.1 The purpose of this policy is to give the necessary opportunity for academy leaders, teachers, students, and parents to take steps to ensure that the ownership of mobile phones/i-pods/air-pods and the wearing of jewellery does not impact negatively on standards around the academy.

2 PURPOSE:

- 2.1 Halewood Academy accepts that parents may give their children mobile phones to protect them from everyday risks involving personal security and safety on the way to and from the academy.
- 2.2 The decision to provide a mobile phone for their children is made by parents with a full understanding and acceptance of this policy.
- 2.3 It is the responsibility of students who choose to bring mobile phones onto academy premises to adhere to the guidelines outlined in this document.
- 2.4 Parents are reminded that in cases of emergency, the school office remains the appropriate point of contact and can ensure that your child is reached quickly, and assisted in any appropriate way.
- 2.5 Parents should not contact their children during the academy day via mobile phones. Similarly, it is not acceptable for students to contact parents during the academy day via mobile phones. The school office remains the first point of communication between the academy and home.

3 THEFT OR DAMAGE

- 3.1 Students who bring a mobile device or wear jewellery to the academy should turn off the device and remove prohibited items before entry into the academy building.
- 3.2 The academy accepts no responsibility for replacing mobile devices or jewellery that is lost, stolen or damaged whilst on academy premises if not handed in for safe keeping, during academy events or whilst attending educational visits.
- 3.3 The academy accepts no responsibility for students who lose or have their mobile devices stolen while travelling to and from the academy.

- 3.4 It is strongly advised that students use passwords/pin numbers to ensure that unauthorised phone calls cannot be made on their phones (e.g. by other students, or if stolen). Students must keep their password/pin numbers confidential. Mobile phones and/or passwords must not be shared.

4 RULES

- 4.1 Mobile phones/i-pods/air-pods, smart watches and Bluetooth speakers should not be used on the academy premises by students.
- 4.2 Parents who wish their child to have a mobile phone on their person to protect them from everyday risks involving personal security and safety on the way to and from academy, must support this policy.
- 4.3 Similarly, headphones/air-pods must not be used on the academy site.
- 4.4 Any students caught with such devices or jewellery during the academy day will be subject to the following:
- 4.4.1 Staff will ask the student to immediately hand over the phone/headphones/device/jewellery.
 - 4.4.2 Failure to hand in the device will escalate to an immediate referral to their Progress Leader/Assistant Progress Leader.
 - 4.4.3 The device(s)/jewellery will be placed in an envelope marked with the student's name and left for safe keeping in the school office.
 - 4.4.4 Parents/carers will be informed of the confiscation by the academy.
 - 4.4.5 For the first confiscation, the student will be able to collect the item themselves at the end of the school day.
 - 4.4.6 Students who breach this rule more than once will not be allowed to collect the item themselves. Their item must be collected by parents/carers on a day that is convenient to them.
 - 4.4.7 Students repeatedly breaching the academy's rules regarding mobile devices and jewellery will be subject to a meeting with their Progress Leader and parents. Parents and the student must then sign a contract with the understanding should the student breach the mobile devices/ jewellery contract they will be confiscated and held until the end of the current half term when parents will be required to collect them.

5 INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT

- 5.1 Any student who uses a mobile device to bully or intimidate any pupil or member of staff will be subject to the academy's Anti-Bullying & Equal Opportunities and Behaviour for Learning Policies.
- 5.2 Where necessary, the academy will work with the police to investigate and resolve serious incidents of inappropriate conduct.
- 5.3 Incidents of disruption in the classroom caused by the use of mobile devices will be subject to sanctions in line with the Behaviour for Learning policy.
- 5.4 Any inappropriate content found on social networking, blog or video websites will be removed via the host site and where appropriate used as evidence by the academy and any relevant authorities.

6 AIDS FOR LEARNING

- 6.1 One occasion where students will be permitted to use their mobile devices for learning is within GCSE Photography. Mobile photography will remain an important part of the GCSE course. Therefore, all students studying photography will be asked to hand their phones at the school office and specify it is for photography. These will be kept safe until lesson time, students will be able to collect their mobile device for use within this lesson only. Students using the devices during lessons will be issued with a photography pass and must return their mobile phone at the end of the lesson. They will be available for collection at the school office at the end of the day.

7 EXTRA-CURRICULAR TIME

- 7.1 If students are attending extra-curricular sessions the rules outlined above apply.
- 7.2 If a student needs to contact home to confirm attendance this should be done on an office phone with permission of the member of staff running the session.