

20 August 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope this message finds you well. As you will be aware the Scottish Government recently introduced a new Mobile Phone Policy for schools. The policy can be found here [Mobile phones: guidance for Scotland's schools - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/publications/mobile-phones-guidance-for-schools/pages/introduction.aspx) Since the release of this, staff have been working with our Parent Council, our pupils and with other schools to review our Mobile Phone Policy.

Our new Mobile Phone Policy will be introduced from Tuesday 23rd September 2025. Between now and then staff will be working to inform our young people about this, and what they can expect. The policy reflects the feelings and wishes of our parents/carers, young people and staff and seeks to address the concerns which they share about the negative impact of mobile phones on learning and wellbeing.

Mobile phones have become a significant distraction in classrooms, impacting pupils' focus, learning, and wellbeing. Staff and pupil feedback have highlighted issues such as misuse during lessons, bullying via social media, and declining social and communication skills. These concerns are echoed by national data and government advice on the detrimental impact of mobile phones in school settings—particularly on concentration, mental health, and attainment. During this session we will be creating a space on our website which is dedicated to supporting parents/carers and young people with mobile phone use.

From Tuesday, 23rd September 2025, the following will apply:

- **Mobile phones must remain in pupils' bags during all lessons. As phone vibration is a distraction, they must not be kept in pockets.**
- **Pupils without bags will hand their phones to the teacher for safekeeping until end of lesson. The school has acquired phone storage trays specifically for this purpose.**
- **If a phone is seen or used without permission during class, pupils will be sent to Reflection to hand over their phone which will be held securely until the end of the day. They will be provided with a ticket so that it can be collected at 15:30. Pupils should return to Reflection at end of the day with their ticket to collect their phone.**
- **Repeated breaches may result in further sanctions or the phone being collected by a parent or guardian.**
- **Phones may be used only when explicitly instructed by a teacher for a learning task—not during breaks or transition times.**
- **Pupils are not permitted to walk around corridors on their mobile phones at the change of period.**

We are aware of pupils with medical needs or specific learning support requirements. These will be managed sensitively by our pastoral teams.

To support you in reinforcing these expectations at home, we will be hosting Mobile Phone and Screen Time Workshops for parents and carers. These sessions will take place during parents' evenings and are to provide you with further information and tools to support the management of your young person's mobile phone use. We encourage you to attend these sessions.

We understand that change may be challenging at first. However, based on the success of similar policies in other schools, we are confident that this approach will lead to:

- **Improved concentration and academic performance**
- **Reduced incidents of bullying and conflict**
- **Better social interaction and communication skills**
- **Healthier screen habits both in and out of school**

I would like to acknowledge and thank the significant work of our staff, young people and Parent Council in creating this policy for the benefit of our young people.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring we create the best possible learning environment for our pupils. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us. Our contact information is on the school website.

Yours sincerely



H Shankland
Headteacher