



PRESTON MUSLIM GIRLS
HIGH SCHOOL

Education with Patience Modesty Gratitude Humility Sincerity

MOBILE PHONE POLICY

Approved by: Headteacher

Last reviewed on: June 2024

Next review due by: July 2025



Growing up in today's digital world provides immense opportunities but this should not come at the expense of our pupils wellbeing or education. The Government have passed legislation to make the UK the safest place in the world for young people to be online.

With this in mind PMGHS have a 'No Mobile Phone Policy' to keep our pupils safe.

Exceptional Circumstances

Measures have been put in place for pupils with exceptional circumstances. Permission can be granted to bring a mobile phone onto the school site if a child is :

- Travelling to and from school alone on public transport
- Walking a distance alone from home to school or school to home
- Is a young carer
- Needs the phone for an educational activity during class time
- Attend before or after-school where a mobile phone is required to contact parents/carers

Parents must acquire permission from the schools Senior Leadership Team and agree that their child will agree to abide by the school's policy on the use of mobile phones.

The school reserves the right revoke permission if pupils don't abide by the policy.

- Pupils who are granted permission under exceptional circumstance are expected to hand their phone into the pastoral office or to a member of the Senior leadership team on arrival to school.
- The mobile phone will be stored away and returned at the end of the school day.
- Pupils are not allowed to use the phone whilst on the school premises.
- Pupils will be able to use the phone off school grounds.
- Parents are made aware that pupils are able to use the school landlines to contact parents in an emergency. Parents can make the decision that it is not necessary for their child to bring a phone even with exceptional circumstances.

If a mobile phone is brought on to the school site without the necessary permission the mobile phone will be confiscated and the following sanctions will apply.

(Schools are permitted to confiscate phones from pupils under sections 91 and 94 of the [Education and Inspections Act 2006](#)). The sanction will be explained as a breach of this policy.

- The phone will be confiscated, and parents will be informed. The phone can be confiscated by any member of staff but will be held with the Pastoral/Academic Leads or a member of the Senior Leadership Team.
- A sanction will be given in accordance with our Behaviour Policy.



- The phone will be safely stored, and the mobile phone will be held for a total of 7 days from the day confiscated.
- In some circumstances an appointment will be made with parents at a mutually agreed time for the phone to be collected.
- Inappropriate use of mobile phones that includes pupils of PMGHS using them to bully, intimidate or otherwise harass other people through any SMS or text message, photographic, video or other data transfer system available on the phone. This type of misuse will be dealt with under the Behaviour Policy. It should be noted that it is a criminal offence to use a mobile phone to menace, harass or offend another person. The school may consider it appropriate to involve the police.
- Where it is suspected that a pupil has brought a phone on site without permission, pupils will be asked to unlock the phone to allow Academic leads or Senior management Team to check of misuse. Inappropriate use of a mobile phone will lead to further sanctions

Staff have the power to search pupils' for mobile phones, as set out in the DfE's guidance on searching, screening and confiscation. The DfE guidance allows schools to search a pupil's phone if you have reason to believe the phone contains pornographic images, or if it is being/has been used to commit an offence or cause personal injury.

If inappropriate content is found on a mobile phone, that places the school or staff members in a vulnerable position, pupils can expect to be excluded.

If a pupil reports bullying through social media, the school will investigate this and parents will be asked to notify the police of bullying or harassment as this is classified as criminal conduct. The school takes such conduct extremely seriously and will involve the police or other agencies as appropriate.

Such conduct includes, but is not limited to:

- Sexting (consensual and non-consensual sharing nude or semi-nude images or videos)
- Threats of violence or assault
- Abusive calls, emails, social media posts or texts directed at someone on the basis of someone's ethnicity, religious beliefs, or any other factors which may have an impact on another pupils/staff's wellbeing.
- The dissemination of images or messages that have been sent, received, and acknowledged negatively tarnishes the reputation of the school.

Use of Mobile phones off the school site

Pupils are informed that rules on bullying, harassment, and intimidation apply to how they use mobile phones even when they are not on the school site. **Pupils are educated through different avenues including PRSHE, whole school assemblies and form time on how to use mobile phones safely.** Pupils should not:



- Use vulgar, obscene or derogatory language while on the phone or when using social media. This language is not permitted under the school's behaviour policy.
- Phones should not be used to share pornography or other harmful content.

Mobile phones are not permitted in any internal or external exam or test environment. If you have a mobile phone, you will be asked to store these appropriately, or turn them over to an exam invigilator, before entering the test/exam room.

