



PRESTON MUSLIM GIRLS
— HIGH SCHOOL —

Education with Patience Modesty Gratitude Humility Sincerity

SCHOOL MOBILE PHONE POLICY

Approved by:	Headteacher/Governing Board	Date: 17 December 2024
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Last reviewed on:	November 2024
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Next review due by:	November 2025
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Every school has a duty to create an environment that is calm, safe and free from distraction so all pupils, can learn and thrive. One of the greatest challenges facing schools is the presence of mobile phones. Growing up in today's digital world provides immense opportunities but this should not come at the expense of our pupil's wellbeing or education. The Government have passed legislation to make the UK the safest place in the world for young people to be online. By removing mobile phones from the school day, we can create a safe space where pupils are protected from the risks and dangers associated with social media and cyber-bullying, as well as the peer pressure and possible stigma associated with owning what are often expensive devices.

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 or during class time.
- Attend before or after-school where a mobile phone is required to contact parents/carers

Parents must acquire permission by completing a form stating what the exceptional circumstance is. Once this has been agreed, consent will be given and an agreement will be signed by the parent and child to abide by the school's policy on the use of mobile phones.

The school reserves the right to revoke permission if pupils do not abide by the policy.

- Pupils who have been given permission, must hand in their device on entry to the school at reception and the device will be stored away and can be collected at end of the school day.
- 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 Behaviour 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 held for a full week (7 days) from the day it was 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 includes: Pupils of PMGHS using a device to bully, intimidate or otherwise harass, 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. Where necessary, the school may consider it appropriate to involve the police.
- Where it is suspected that a pupil has brought a mobile phone onto the school site without permission, pupils will be asked to unlock the phone to allow Academic leads or Senior management Team to ensure the mobile phone has not been used during the school day. 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 you to search a pupil's phone if you have reason to believe the phone contains inappropriate 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 where 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.



Use of Mobile phones off the school site

The mobile phone has become an avenue for bullying, harassment, and intimidation whilst off 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 are informed that they should not:

- Use vulgar, obscene or derogatory language whilst on their device 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.

