Connaught Junior School
"Caring, Confident, Committed"

Children's Mobile Phone and Device Policy

Author: SM and KW
Approval: Aut 2026
Approved By: HT
Review: Aut 2028

Rationale:

Connaught Junior School recognise that as children become more independent, they may be allowed by their parents to walk to and from school (except if they are taking part in a club). For security, children will often be provided with a mobile phone to carry with them We recognise the benefits they bring, but they also have inherent risks. The aim of this policy, therefore, is to mitigate the potential safety issues by providing a framework for staff, governors, pupils, parents and visitors to Connaught to follow. This policy should be read in conjunction with our e-safety and Child Protection policy documents as well as the main mobile phone policy.

Possible Issues:

- Bullying
- Disruption to the learning environment
- Inappropriate/indecent images and videos
- Increase of peer pressure
- Risk to an individual's confidentiality and/or privacy
- Theft
- Grooming
- Abuse

Code of Conduct:

All staff, pupils and visitors to Connaught must adhere to the Mobile Phone and Technology Code of Conduct. It is the responsibility of all members of staff to be vigilant in preventing their misuse.

Children

- Pupils should only bring in a mobile phone if they have a long or difficult route home. Parents should complete a permission form for their child to have a phone in school. Phones should be turned off and handed in to their class teacher for the duration of the school day.
- Pupils bringing in phones without permission, will, if found, have them confiscated until the end of the school day when their parent will be asked to collect it from a member of the SLT. The class teacher will inform the parent.
- Smart watches of any kind are not allowed in school, even if they do not have a phone. The only watches allowed are traditional watches or an inexpensive basic fit bit.
- Pupil mobile phone/smart watches that take photos or are expensive must never be taken on school trips.
- If a child is to bring a smart watch into school, they must be turned off when entering the school grounds and handed into their class teacher for the duration of the day. Parents should complete a permission form for their child to have a smart watch in school.
- Any phone brought into school, is done so at the owner's risk. Connaught accepts no liability for lost or damaged phones.

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- If a pupil is found taking photographs or video footage with a mobile phone or device of either other pupils or teachers, this will be regarded as a serious offence and disciplinary action will be taken in accordance with our Behaviour policy.
- If images of other pupils or teacher have been taken, the device will **not** be returned to the pupil until the images have been removed. The parents will be informed and be asked to check that the photos have been removed. There is more guidance on this in our safeguarding and child protection policy.
- Should a pupil be found to be using their phone inappropriately, the school reserves the right to withdraw this privilege and they will no longer be able to bring a phone into school.
- We ask that parents should talk to their children about the appropriate use of text messages as they can often be used to bully pupils. Should parents need to contact pupils or vice versa during the school day, this should be done via the usual school procedure of contacting the school office via phone or email.

Mobile Phone and Smart Watch Parental Consent Form

Dear Parent/Carer

In accordance with our mobile phone policy, if your child is bringing in a mobile phone to school on a regular basis, please could you sign the form below to give your permission for your child to do this and remind them of our school policy.

• Your child needs to turn their mobile phone/smart watch off when they come onto the school ground and hand their phone in to the class teacher
• Parents/Carers must talk to their child about how to use their phone safely and the rules of having their phone in school
• The school bears no responsibility for the loss or damage to a mobile phone/smart watch
• Should your child be found using their phone inappropriately, the school reserves the right to withdraw this privilege and they will no longer be able to bring their phone into school.

Yours sincerely
Miss S McGann
Head teacher

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MOBILE PHONE/SMART WATCH PARENTAL CONSENT

I/we give permission for our child (name) …….
In Year …….. to bring their mobile phone/smart watch into school. We have read the policy and understand its implications

Signed …….. Date…….

PLEASE RETURN PERMISSION SLIP TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER. THANK YOU.