



# **Stanchester**

## Academy

### **Mobile Phone, Music Players, Headphone and Games Console Policy 2023 24**

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. M. M.', is written over a faint, light blue watermark of the Stanchester Academy logo.

Headteacher

**Approval Date:** July 2023

**Review Date:** July 2024

## **Mobile Phone, MusicPlayers, Headphone and Games Console Policy**

Mobile phones are a feature of modern society. Stanchester Academy recognises the wishes of a number of parents/carers for students to carry a mobile phone to assist with safe journeys to and from school.

### **Mobile Phone Acceptable Use Policy (Years 7 – 11)**

When on the school site because of the potential safeguarding implications. This policy has been drawn up with the best interests of student safety. It is our policy to allow students to have a mobile phone with them in school should they choose to do so under the conditions outlined in the policy below:

#### **Conditions:**

- At Stanchester Academy we have an 'invisibility policy' in relation to mobile phones and headphones. We understand that parents/carers may want their son/daughter to carry a mobile phone so they are easily contactable. Therefore, we allow mobile phones on site if they are switched off and kept in bags.
- Phones must not be used for any purpose (e.g. phoning, texting, surfing the internet, taking photos, checking the time, taking videos) when on the school site between 08:20 (first bell) and 14:50 (Last bell). If a mobile phone is taken out of a student's bag whilst on site, it will be confiscated.
- Mobile phones should be 'switched off and in school bags' during these times; any phone or headphones seen or heard will be confiscated, this includes phones on display. The restriction is in place at all times whilst students are on the grounds of the school building; this includes when students arrive and leave at the end of the day.
- Should students wish to use their phone during the day to contact parents with any concerns, or for collection following school-based activities, they are asked to go to the main reception and ask for support from reception staff to call parents.
- If parents/carers need to contact a student during the day, please contact reception and reception will get a message to their sons/daughters.
- Parents/carers should not contact students on their mobile phones.

#### **Confiscation**

- If a student breaches these rules the phone will be confiscated and taken to reception. Students will be allowed to collect the confiscated item from school at the end of the school day.
- Ordinarily, if a phone is confiscated it will be handed back at the end of the school day. If however, a student has a phone confiscated on more than one occasion a parent/carer will be contacted and a mobile phone ban may be put in place.

**Phones must not be taken into examinations.**

- 'No Mobile Phones, iPods, MP3 players, pagers, smart watches or any other products with text/digital facilities are permitted in the examination room. Possession of unauthorised items is an infringement of the regulations and could lead to disqualification from the current examination and the overall qualification. Candidates are advised that mobilephones must not be in their possession whether or not switched on (Joint Council for Qualifications statement 2008).

**Emergencies**

If a student needs to contact his/her parents/carers they will be allowed to use a school phone. If parents/carers need to contact students urgently they should phone the school reception and a message will be relayed promptly.

**Security for mobile phones and other valuables**

The school cannot accept any responsibility for theft, loss, damage or health effects (potential or actual) relating to mobile devices, nor for theft, loss or damage to any other valuable item, or for the theft or loss of money. It is the responsibility of parents/carers and students to ensure mobile phones and other valuables are insured.

**Music multimedia players and handheld games consoles**

Students in Years 7-11 should not bring music multimedia players or games consoles into school at any time and consequently they should not be used in lessons or around the school. The high value of these items creates added security issues within school for both the student and supervising staff. Any student who brings such items into school will be subject to the sanctions described previously.