**Monifieth High School**

**Mobile Technology Policy (DRAFT)**



 Review Date - 2022

**Aims**

The aims of the Monifieth Mobile Technology Policy are:

* To promote responsible and appropriate use of mobile technology in Monifieth High School
* To be informed by national and local legislation and current educational thinking with regards to supporting the learning of young people and keeping them safe
* To give opportunities and resources to improve learning which will lead to positive outcomes in relation to attainment
* To develop clear systems to support staff, young people, parents/carers and partners

**United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)**

Article 3 recognises that all parties “should ensure the right of the child to protection and care as is necessary for his or her wellbeing”

Article 28 recognises the right of the child to education and that all parties should “facilitate access to scientific and technical knowledge and modern teaching methods”

* In Monifieth High School we are committed to safeguarding the rights of pupils and staff to work in an environment which encourages effective learning and teaching

* In Monifieth High School everyone has the right to be treated in a polite and sensitive manner

* The Monifieth High Mobile Technology Policy promotes the right of young people and staff to work within an ethos of mutual respect

**Curriculum for Excellence**

In our school community, we will endeavour to teach our young people to the best possible standard and to encourage them to use their unique talents and great potential to improve lives. In this context, the development and delivery of Curriculum for Excellence is focused on achieving our Vision of Excellence stated below:

We will deliver on Attainment, Health and Community by providing:

* The highest levels of attainment and wider achievement for every individual young person to progress to a sustained positive destination
* The promotion of positive health to improve the lives and life chances of all our young people
* The fostering of community spirit and involvement in school and the wider community.

**Rationale**

*As an ever-increasing range of new technologies are embedded in our day to day lives, numerous opportunities exist to incorporate these into classrooms to enhance teaching and learning opportunities. These new technologies not only provide access to materials and resources but have the potential to create connections with classrooms and communities around the world in ways that have never been available in the past. Although this opens up a huge range of possibilities, it also presents a number of challenges related to boundaries between teachers and pupils*. (Angus Council).

*During the school day the use of mobile phones or similar mobile devices will not normally be permitted on the school campus. However, at certain times during the school day, teachers and learners may want to utilise these functions to aid learning and teaching. Learners may have the opportunity to use Council procured or personal mobile devices in the classroom. The use of personal mobile devices by pupils in the classroom will be under express permission of the teacher.* (Angus Council).

*Significant educational benefits for pupils working in all curricular areas can be gained through use of the Internet. This can involve access to world-wide information, the development of skills for learning, life and work and the promotion of key skills in literacy and numeracy. Internet use in all classrooms needs to be well planned, task orientated and take place within a regulated and managed environment*.

*Pupils should be provided with guidance, reinforced by procedures and appropriate rules, which are prominently displayed. This information will help them make responsible decisions (Angus Council.*

It is widely recognised that access to the internet can enhance learning and teaching. It is also clear that cyber bullying and inappropriate use of mobile phones in schools is an increasing problem which can disrupt learning. Therefore, this policy provides clear guidelines on the use of mobile phones in Monifieth High School, taking into account recent research and Council guidelines.

**Guidelines for Staff, Pupils and Parents**

**General**

Pupils are permitted to use mobile phones at break and lunchtime but **must not** take photos, or videos anywhere in the school building or within school grounds.

Headphones should not be used in class unless directed to by the teacher and should not be used when moving between classes.

If pupils use their phone to access their timetable, this should be checked at the start of the day, break and lunchtime.

**Within the classroom**

Phone use is at the discretion of the class teacher:

\*1. If the lesson **will require** pupils to use phone e.g. for research or as a stopwatch etc. then the phone should be on silent, notifications switched off and placed face down on the desk apart from when being used for class work

\*2. If the phone **will not be** required for learning then the phone must be on silent, notifications off and left in a jacket or bag which must be placed on the floor or in a designated area of the classroom

3. Pupils **must not** take mobile phones to the toilet

4. Teachers **must not** allow pupils to **charge** mobile phones in the school/classroom

5. Parents should not call or text pupils apart from break or lunchtime

6. Phones must not be kept in pockets within the classroom

**Actions**

If any of the conditions in \*1 and \*2 are not adhered to then phone should be confiscated by the teacher and given back at the end of the lesson and recorded on SEEMIS. A text will be sent home, notifying which period(s) the phone was removed.

If a pupil is seen taking a photo or video on school premises their name should be passed to the House DHT and a text will be sent home.

If a pupil is seen using their phone in the corridor, they should be asked to put it away.

If pupil refuses to hand over their phone the pupil should be sent to time-out and DHT will remove phone for day and parent contacted.

PCS and DHT will get a daily summary of phone misuse and contact parent/carer when appropriate.

**Appendix**

**Professional Reading**

<http://theconversation.com/banning-mobile-phones-in-schools-beneficial-or-risky-heres-what-the-evidence-says-119456>

<http://www.gtcs.org.uk/News/teaching-scotland/79-room-for-debate-mobiles.aspx>

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0747563215300595>

The Use of Electronic Communications, Social Media, and Mobile Technologies Policy Guidelines September 2013 (updated 2015)

<https://www.angus.gov.uk/sites/angus-cms/files/2017-05/The%20Use%20of%20Electronic%20Communications%20Strategy_0.pdf>