



Mobile Phones/Games/Smart Watches/iPads (mobile devices) Policy

At Tanto International School we have always remained clear about our policy towards mobile devices. In recent times, incidents have occurred where inappropriate/unnecessary use of a mobile device has taken place. This has caused concern for staff involved and served as a reminder that all staff, guardians and pupils should be aware of the school policy (inc. TASC) on Mobile phone/watch, MP3, iPod, iPad etc use.

Rationale

Mobile devices are a feature of modern society and an increasing number of our pupils own one. Mobile devices serve as an excellent way to ensure pupils are always able to contact guardians when they are not being supervised under direct adult care.

Whilst on the school premises, personal mobile devices are not necessary for the educational purposes that the children are here for. They may of course be used to speak to guardians outside of school time (on the way to and from school) to make arrangements. The device must however remain switched off between 8:30-18:00 and be kept in their backpack.

Increasing sophistication of mobile technology presents a number of issues for schools:

- The high monetary value of many mobile devices and potential loss/damage
- The integration of cameras leading to potential privacy issues
- The potential to use the devices for texting/communicating whilst on silent mode
- The potential for miscommunication between staff, students and guardians regarding the time a child should leave the school premises

Policy

- Mobile devices must not be used by pupils for any purpose between the hours of 8:30 and 18:00.
- If a child in TASC believes their parent may contact them about when to leave, they should get the device out from their bag, give it to a member of staff who can look after it / supervise use of the devices for leaving school purposes. Guardians are encouraged to use the TASC phone for such communication.
- If a child breaches these rules the phone will be collected by a member of staff. It will be returned to the child before they leave school/TASC and guardians will be made aware that the use is becoming a distraction and be reminded of our policy. Guardians must contact TASC (or the School Office before 15:00), through the TASC phone or Admentum, if they need to make alterations or state a time that a child must leave by. This ensures lines of communication with the member of staff on duty are kept open and successful. Guardians can speak to member of staff and a message will be relayed promptly to their child.

Responsibility & Liability

- Tanto International School accepts no responsibility or liability whatsoever for theft, loss, damage or health effects (potential or actual) relating to mobile phones.