

## Mobile Phone Policy

Droylsden Academy does not permit students to have mobile phones in the Academy. Whilst this has not always been the case, recent media coverage and an increased misuse of mobile phones has led the Academy to share this information with parents and students. Mobile phones are not acceptable in the Academy for several reasons:

1. The potential disruption caused during lessons by phones ringing or by students receiving or sending texts;
2. The potential disruption at breaks and lunchtimes caused by students phoning or texting;
3. The possible Health and Safety risks linked to the use of mobile phones;
4. The danger of texting or using facebook as a form of bullying;
5. The infringement of privacy caused by students taking photos of other students or staff without their permission;
6. Incidents nationally where fights or assaults have been set up and filmed on mobile phones.

The Academy appreciates that mobile phones can serve a useful purpose. However, the risks to students' health and safety, to their wellbeing, and to maintaining good order within the Academy are considered to far outweigh the benefits. Students needing to contact parents / carers may use an Academy telephone with a member of staff's permission.

Consequently, mobile phones are not permitted on the Academy site. Any student seen with a mobile phone, whether using it or not, will have the item taken from them. The phone will be stored securely until the parent/carer arranges to collect it from between 8.15am and 4.00pm, with the receipt.

Any student found to be using a mobile phone on the Academy premises will have the item taken from them, as above, and a suitable sanction given. Any student found to be using a mobile phone for any of purposes 1-6 listed above, or for any other purpose considered unsuitable by the Academy, will have the item taken from them and further sanctions applied. Unlawful use of a mobile phone may result in police involvement.

The Academy's decision to continue not permit mobile phones may be reinforced in the near future in conjunction with government guidance.