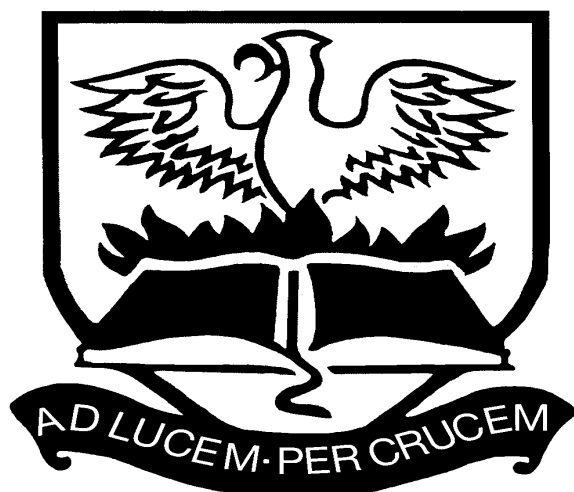


ARCHBISHOP BLANCH SCHOOL



MOBILE PHONE AND CAMERA POLICY (INCLUDING ALL PORTABLE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES)

POLICY WRITTEN BY:	J Griffiths
DATE POLICY PREPARED:	February 1999
DATE FIRST RATIFIED BY GOVERNING BODY:	June 1999
DATE POLICY REVIEWED:	February 2008
DATE POLICY RE-RATIFIED:	July 2008
DATE FOR NEXT REVIEW:	September 2011

POLICY ON THE USE OF MOBILE PHONES AND CAMERAS (INCLUDING ALL PORTABLE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES)

This policy should be taken and used as part of Archbishop Blanch Church of England School's overall strategy and implemented within the context of our Mission Statement and Instrument of Government aims.

As a Church of England School, we accept and respect all members of our community as unique children of God, precious in His sight and of infinite worth.

As a school, we recognise that parents may wish pupils to carry a mobile phone on their journey to and from school. Mobile phones provide an important source of communication when the pupil is away from the security of the school or home. However, we feel that their use in school is inappropriate; they can cause disruption in lessons and lead to confrontation between pupil and teacher.

Mobile phones have the capacity to take photographs and videos and to record conversations and lessons; used in this way, they infringe the right of personal privacy and may be used for bullying purposes. In addition, all examination boards reserve the right to disqualify pupils found with a mobile phone on their person during an examination.

As a result of the issues raised above:

- Mobile phones must be switched off as soon as a pupil reaches school. They must not be used or be visible during the school day and should remain switched off at all times
- They should not be used during breaks or lunchtime for making or receiving phone calls or text messages
- No photographs or videos are to be taken on school premises without the permission of a member of staff
- If a pupil needs to contact home in an emergency during the school day they should see their Year Tutor or Form Teacher. Parents/carers may contact the school in an emergency and a message will be sent to the child
- We advise that pupils should not bring into school mobile phones which are excessively expensive
- If a teacher sees a pupil using a mobile phone during the day, it will be confiscated and placed in the school safe. It will be returned to the pupil at the end of the day for their journey home. A detention may be given for a second offence. Where the Sixth Form students are concerned, the use of mobile phone is restricted to within the Sixth Form Common Room area only.
- On rare occasions, mobile phones are lost or stolen. The school cannot be held responsible if this happens.