MAESTEG SCHOOL

Mobile Phone Ban

Mobile Phone Ban Rationale

- -Improve concentration

- -Reduce incidents of bullying

- -Improve examination results

- -Improve verbal and written communication skills

- -Tackle the increasing problem of addiction to technology

No Phone Zone

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It is a question that keeps some parents awake at night. Should children be allowed to take mobile phones to school? Now economists claim to have an answer. For parents who want to boost their children's academic prospects, it is no.
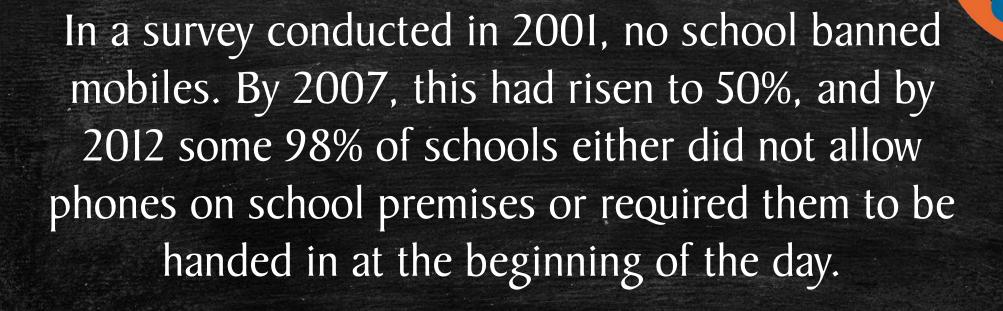
UK Research (Click here)

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In a recent study conducted in England, pupils without the distraction of a mobile phone took *50% more notes* than those with a mobile phone. They scored *70% higher* when asked to *recall information* and achieved a *whole grade and a half* more than those pupils with mobile phones.

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In a survey conducted in 2001, no school banned mobiles. By 2007, this had risen to 50%, and by 2012 some 98% of schools either did not allow phones on school premises or required them to be handed in at the beginning of the day.

UK Research (Click here)

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The effect of banning mobile phones from school premises adds up to the equivalent of an extra week's schooling over a pupil's academic year, according to research by Louis-Philippe Beland and Richard Murphy, published by the Centre for Economic Performance (Click here) at the London School of Economics.

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"When people of our age were being bullied at school you could slam the door and escape from it; spend the weekend with your parents and get away from it," he said. "But now there is no escape from it; everything is just there constantly in your face." Mr Hunt was speaking at an Education Policy Institute (EPI) event in central London on the issue of transforming mental health services for children and young people.

Ofsted to inspect schools on pupils' wellbeing and mental health

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Research also states that due to limited cognitive capacities, even simple texting can **reduce comprehension** of class material at a rate of **10-20%**.

The Cost of Texting in the Classroom (Click here)

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Research shows that pupils who experience cyberbullying were *56% more likely* to bully others and/or experience bullying in school.

The Relationship between Cyberbullying and School Bullying (Click here)

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- Further academic research conducted found that of the students studied, 11% said that they had been electronically bullied at least once in the last couple of months (victims only); 7% indicated that they were the bully/victims; and 4% had electronically bullied someone else at least once in the previous couple of months (bullies only).
- The most common methods for electronic bullying (as reported by both victims and perpetrators) involved the use of instant messaging, chat rooms, and e-mail. Importantly, close to half of the electronic bullying victims reported not knowing the perpetrator's identity.
- The study concluded that electronic bullying represents a problem of significant magnitude. As children's use of electronic communications technologies is unlikely to wane in coming years, continued attention to electronic bullying is critical.