



**MAESTEG SCHOOL**

# **MOBILE PHONE POLICY**



**#MOTIVATEDTOSTRIVE**

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Although Maesteg School accepts that Mobile phones have quickly become an important aspect of everyone's life, research shows that the harm they can do can often outweigh the good. Excessive phone use has been linked with adverse adolescent mental health in a number of significant studies. There is now clear evidence that 'heavy use' is closely linked with depression in both boys and girls.

Mobile phones have also been shown to have a disruptive influence on students' attention and therefore a negative influence on learning. The mere proximity of a phone, even when switched off has been shown to impair the thinking ability of students.

Maesteg School needs to offer our students a safe and secure environment to learn, free from distractions and unkind behaviour associated with smart phones and social media.

**For this reasons, mobile phones must not be brought onto the school premises.**

Should a student be found to bring their mobile phone to school the phone will be confiscated and **parents must collect the phone from the school. Failure to follow this school rule may lead to a fixed term exclusion.**

## **Rules:**

- 1) Mobile phones **MUST NOT** be brought into school for any reason including to listen to music.
- 2) Headphones must not be worn at any time of the school day.

- 3) If mobile phones are seen, they will be confiscated, and parents will be asked to collect the phone from school.
- 4) If the student is refusing to comply with this rule, then parents will be contacted immediately to collect the phone and the student may be issued with a fixed-term exclusion.
- 5) In an emergency parents/carers should phone reception and/or the pastoral office and a message will be taken to the student. If there is a situation which requires communication with home, students must speak to a member of pastoral staff who will deal with the matter.
- 6) Where students need their mobile phones before or after school as a safeguarding requirement, parents must make special arrangements with the relevant Progress Leader to allow the phone to remain in the locked phone safe until the end of the school day.

**Maesteg School is a workplace. The good order and discipline of the school and teaching and learning must not be affected by the use of mobile phones.**

**Note: all points in the policy apply to phones, watches and any similar device.**