

Mobile Phone Policy

Revised: 25/08/2023
Review Date: 30/06/2024

POLICY OVERVIEW

Yas American Academy accepts that practices around the use of mobile devices are changing

and in response to this, allows students to have mobile phones in school predominantly for emergency purposes. It is expected that with the BYOD policy, a student wishing to access the internet in class or take a photograph of work on the board should use that device and not their phone. Mobile phones should be used, for example, if they miss the School Bus or their 'lift' home

or if fixtures/commitments change during the school day then they can use a mobile to alert a parent of the situation. Using a mobile phone in this manner is entirely appropriate.

In allowing students to bring mobile phones to school, Yas American Academy reminds you that

it accepts no responsibility for any loss or damage to phones whilst they are on school premises. Mobile phones should not be used as recreational, social or fashion items! Staff will model this behaviour themselves and make expectations clear through homeroom, lessons, directed study time and assemblies.

MOBILE PHONE AND DEVICE USE DURING LESSONS

During lessons, morning recess, lunchtime and homeroom time, mobile phones must be switched off and out of sight to prevent them from becoming a distraction. There have been instances of students' messaging during lessons and parents phoning their child's mobile phone during lessons, which is not acceptable. Students can use a BYOD such as a tablet or iPad if permitted to do so by the teacher in specific lessons. There may be times where a teacher asks a student to use their phone to support learning, but this is at their discretion. In directed study lessons, students may use headphones to watch videos/complete online exercises in support of their learning. These headphones should be attached to a device and not to a phone.

PARENTS CONTACTING STUDENTS

If parents wish to pass on an urgent message during school hours, they should contact the School Office/Reception/Head of Grade. Similarly, students who have a genuine need to contact their parents whilst they are on school premises may use the telephone in the School Reception or go to the Pastoral Office.

SANCTIONS

If a student is found using their phone:

Frequency	Consequence
1 st offence	Phone confiscated and may be collected at end of the day by the student.
2 nd offence	Phone confiscated and collected at end of the day by the child. Lunch refocus issued. Parent notified
3 rd offence	Phone confiscated and collected by the child's parents at end of the day where possible. Student is required to hand phone to HoG every morning and collect at end of day for an agreed period of time.

CONFISCATED MOBILE PHONES

If a staff member confiscates a mobile phone, it should be clearly marked with the student's name and handed by that staff member to one of the Head of Grade/SLT/ Reception team.

The HoG/ School Reception staff will make a note of the incident within Engage and the phone is kept with the HoG for safe keeping until the end of the day.