

# GOURDON PRIMARY SCHOOL



## MOBILE USE POLICY

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Aberdeenshire  
COUNCIL



*Education, Learning & Leisure*

# Mobile Device Use Policy

ARTICLE 12 (respect for children's views) Every child has the right to express their views on matters that affect them, and for these views to be taken into consideration.

## Rationale

An increasing number of parents/guardians wish to provide their children with **mobile phones or wearable devices with messaging, Internet and/or Bluetooth capabilities** for safety, security and/or emergency. This policy details the conditions under which these devices are permitted at Gourdon Primary School. Wearable devices with messaging, internet or Bluetooth capabilities may include digital watches and wearable fitness trackers. The school reserves the right to amend this policy in the future.

This policy has been shared and agreed by our stakeholders, pupils and staff.

## Principles

1. Pupils will only be permitted to bring a mobile phone or wearable device with messaging, internet and/or Bluetooth capabilities onto school premises for safety, security or emergency purposes (*i.e. contact parents after school to arrange pick-up times*).
2. In order for a student to bring a mobile phone or wearable device with messaging, internet and/or Bluetooth capabilities to school, parents/carers need to request permission for the child to have the device at school from the Head Teacher. This is in the form of a paper contract. Mobile Device Use Contracts should be read and discussed with parent(s) and child(ren) before signing and returning to school. Mobile Device Use Contracts can be requested at any time during the school session.
3. Mobile phones must be turned off during school hours and, are to be handed to the class teacher before school begins and collected at the end of the day. Each phone will be placed in a zip lock bag with the student's name on it. Named zip locked bags will be provided by school.
4. Wearable devices with phone, messaging, internet or Bluetooth capabilities are to be handed in to the class teacher before school begins and collected by the pupil at the end of each day. Each device will be placed in a zip lock bag with the pupil's name on it. Named zip locked bags will be provided by school.
5. Mobile phones and wearable devices with phone, messaging, internet or Bluetooth capabilities may only be turned on and/or used **out of school hours and when the child has left the school grounds**.
6. While at school, pupils are the responsibility of school staff. Any instances that require emergency contact with parents **MUST** be through the appropriate staff member or a member of administration who will make the appropriate call to parents/carers.

7. Devices are not to be used by other pupils.
8. The school does not accept responsibility for any theft, loss or damage of mobile phones or wearable devices.
9. The mobile phone or wearable device is not used for inappropriate purposes (*i.e. Pupils are not to take photos or videos on mobile phones on school premises or message friends or family members.*)

### **Inappropriate conduct**

It should be noted that it is a criminal offence to use a mobile device to menace, harass or offend another person. Hence, pupils with devices must not engage in personal attacks, harass another person, or post private information about another person using messages, taking/sending photos, videos or objectionable images, and phone calls.

Pupils using devices to bully other students will face disciplinary actions as sanctioned by the Head Teacher.

### **Sanctions**

Pupils infringing on the principles noted above will have their mobile phone or wearable device confiscated and secured. It will be taken to the office and kept secure, and the parent(s) of the pupil informed. Parent(s) of the pupil may collect the device at an agreed time/date.

Any incidents of inappropriate behaviours using mobile phones or wearable devices will result in disciplinary action as applied by the Head Teacher. The Head Teacher may then withdraw permission to the pupil to bring a mobile phone or wearable device to Gourdon Primary School for a set period or permanently.