

Ormiston Forge Academy

Electronic Devices Policy

November 2018



Approved by the Local Governing Body: **Under powers delegated to the SLT Oct 2018**

Review period: **Oct 2020**

Statement of intent

Ormiston Forge Academy accepts that personal mobile phones and tablets are often given to students by their parents to ensure their safety and personal security.

Mobile phones, digital music players and other personal electronic devices have become more widely available.

As a school, we must make a sensible and practical response. We understand that parents wish their children to carry a mobile phone for their personal safety, whilst students may wish to bring additional devices to the academy for other reasons.

Key roles and responsibilities

The governing body has overall responsibility for the implementation of the personal electronic devices policy and procedures of Ormiston Forge

The governing body has overall responsibility for ensuring that the Personal Electronic Devices Policy, as written, does not discriminate on any grounds, including but not limited to ethnicity/national origin, culture, religion, gender, disability or sexual orientation.

The principal has responsibility for handling complaints regarding this policy as outlined in the academy's Complaints Policy.

The principal will be responsible for the day-to-day implementation and management of the personal electronic devices policy and procedures of Ormiston Forge

General property

Pupils are responsible for their own belongings.

Exercise books, planners, text books, electronic equipment, stationary and folders issued by Ormiston Forge Academy remain the property of the academy and should be treated as such.

Pupils are responsible for replacing lost or damaged academy property, including electronic devices.

Personal electronic devices

Personal electronic devices include, but are not limited to, existing and emerging:

Mobile communication systems and smart technologies (mobile phones, iPhones, Smartphones, internet-enabled phones, smart watches etc.).

Personal Digital Assistants (PDA) (Palm organisers, pocket PCs, etc.)

Handheld entertainment systems (video games, CD players, compact DVD players, MP3 players, iPods, earphones, etc.).

Portable internet devices (mobile messengers, iPads, etc.).

Wireless handheld technologies or portable information technology systems (used for word processing, wireless internet access, image capture/recording, sound recording, and information transmitting/receiving/storing, etc.).

Ormiston Forge Academy acknowledges the increasing use of mobile technology as part of the curriculum.

Parents/carers should be aware if their child takes a mobile phone or tablet to school.

Ormiston Forge Academy accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile devices either at the academy, or travelling to and from the academy.

Acceptable use

Mobile devices should be switched off and kept out of sight during classroom lessons, unless using the device as part of a lesson with the permission of their class teacher.

Mobile phones should only be used for voice calls with the express permission of their parents/carers and teachers and for emergencies only.

Outside lessons, pupils should use soundless features such as text messaging, answering services, call diversion and vibration alert to receive important calls.

Mobile devices should not be used in any manner or place that is disruptive to the normal routine of the academy.

Students are responsible for protecting their own personal information including their phone number.

Unacceptable use

Unless express permission is granted, mobile devices should not be used to make calls, send SMS messages, iMessages or emails, take photos or use any other application during lessons and other educational and pastoral activities.

Files should not be sent between mobile devices and Bluetooth and WIFI functions should be disabled while on academy premises.

If students fall ill during academy hours, they must not use their mobile device to contact parents/carers; they should use the agreed procedure and go to the main office/Progress Year leader

Under no circumstances should mobile devices be taken into examinations.

Under no circumstances should mobile devices be used in changing rooms or toilets.

Personal laptops, mobile phones or tablets must not be plugged in to outlets on the academy premises without the express permission of the principal and an up-to-date portable appliance test (PAT).

Students may use a portable flash drive to transfer academy work only.

Cyberbullying

At Ormiston Forge, cyber bullying is taken seriously.

Incidents of cyber bullying will be dealt with and reported along the same chain as the Anti-Bullying Policy.

As part of our on-going commitment to the prevention of cyber bullying, regular education and discussion about e-safety will take place as part of computing and PSHE.

Spot checks

Any teacher or staff member may ask any student to show them what they are doing on their mobile phone or tablet at any time.

Any teacher or staff member may ask any student to give them their portable flash drive at any time.

Students are required to comply with any request to check their mobile phone, tablet or flash drive.

Students are required to comply with any request to disable the screen lock function of their phone and show any teacher or staff member what they are doing.

Accessing Data

Downloading and accessing inappropriate websites and data on academy personal electronic devices is strictly prohibited.

Using the personal data of any student or member of staff for non-work related activity is strictly prohibited.

More information about accessing data can be found in our Data Protection Policy.

Sanctions

Using a mobile device is a privilege which can be revoked at any time.

Any student caught breaking the Personal Electronic Devices Policy will have their mobile device confiscated until the end of the day.

Confiscated mobile devices will be locked away securely in the main office in the safe.

Confiscated mobile devices must be collected by the student's parent/carer.

Bullying via mobile device will be disciplined in line with Ormiston Forge Academy Anti-Bullying Policy.

Students caught taking mobile phones or tablets into examinations will be banned from bringing devices into the academy and will have their device confiscated until the end of term.

Policy Review

This policy is reviewed every two years by Vice Principal Inclusion

The scheduled review date for this policy by OAT is August 2020