



The Belsteads School Mobile Phone Policy

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Name of Responsible (ratifying) Committee	Peter Adams – Proprietor Signed:
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Contents

Page 2	Introduction Policy on Mobiles in School Advice on Safe Use of Mobiles Disability Equality Scheme
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INTRODUCTION

Pupils and parents/carers should be aware that whilst there are obvious benefits to pupils from having mobile phones, in terms of their personal safety, there are also risks attached such as the potential for theft, bullying and inappropriate contact, including 'grooming' by unsuitable persons.

POLICY ON MOBILES IN SCHOOL

- Mobile phones should not be used on school premises and pupils are expected to hand them in for safe-keeping to a member of staff on arrival each morning.
- If difficulties occur in pupils handing phones to staff, parents/carers will be informed and may be asked to collect the phone on their behalf.
- Where there is a suspicion that inappropriate/illegal material maybe on the mobile phone and it may provide evidence relating to a criminal offence the phone will be handed to the police.
- Pupils remain responsible for their own property and will bear the responsibility of any losses.
- Pupils are strongly discouraged from bringing valuable items, such as, camera phones, Ipods etc into school because of the potential for them to be lost or stolen.

ADVICE ON SAFE USE OF MOBILES

- Using your mobile can be great fun but you need to be careful and keep safe.
- Don't give out your number or friends' numbers to people you don't know, especially in Instant Messenger or Chat Rooms.
- Keep your security code or PIN number private.
- If you get texts that upset you, don't reply but keep a record and tell an adult. In serious cases you can report it to the police.
- If you receive a rude or embarrassing image or text about someone, don't forward it to others.
- Distributing sexual images of other young people is harassment and could be illegal. If you receive something like this tell an adult immediately.
- Ask permission before taking a picture of your friends and think before you send it on. Once sent you have lost control of it and it could become public before you know it.

See KidStart at www.kidsmart.org.uk for more information on staying safe, leaflets and interactive games.

DISABILITY EQUALITY SCHEME

In reviewing this policy, we have taken into account consideration of any potential implications of the Disability Equality Scheme.