



Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy

Personal Electronic Devices Policy

Ormiston Academies Trust

Revision level	Revision date	Description of changes	
Prepared: Signature	Approved: Signature	Released: Signature	

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Personal Electronic Devices Policy

Policy Version Control

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Policy prepared by (name and department)	Nicki Wadley, Head of Governance
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1. Statement of intent

OSCA accepts that personal mobile phones and tablets are often given to pupils 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.

OSCA Behaviour Policy allows students to bring mobile phones onto the site. However student mobile phone use is not allowed during lesson time. The use of these devices is allowed during Break and Lunchtime but NOT in the building. The phones have no access to the Academy WiFi network (students are not allowed access to the wireless access code). Student phones are brought on to the school site at their own risk.

2. Key roles and responsibilities

2.1 The governing body has overall responsibility for the implementation of the personal electronic devices policy and procedures of OSCA.

2.2 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.

2.3 The governing body has overall responsibility for reviewing the Personal Electronic Devices Policy every two years.

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

2.5 The principal will be responsible for the day-to-day implementation and management of the personal electronic devices policy and procedures of OSCA.

3. General property

3.1 Pupils are responsible for their own belongings.

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

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

4. Personal electronic devices (bring in a phone at their own risk)

4.1 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.).

4.2 OSCA acknowledges the increasing use of mobile technology as part of the curriculum.

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

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

5. Acceptable use

5.1 Mobile devices should be switched off and kept out of sight during classroom lessons.

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

5.3 Mobile devices should not be used in any manner or place that is disruptive to the normal routine of the academy, and can only be used outside during Break and Lunchtime.

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

6. Unacceptable use

6.1 Students should not use mobile phones to take photos, record/film images on the school site.

6.2 Files should not be sent between mobile devices and Bluetooth and WiFi functions should be disabled while on academy premises. Note students have no access to OSCA's WiFi network.

6.3 If pupils fall ill during academy hours, they must not use their mobile device to contact parents/carers; they should use the agreed procedures.

6.4 Under no circumstances should mobile devices be taken into examinations.

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

6.6 Mobile phones must not be plugged in to outlets on the academy premises without the express permission of the principal.

6.7 Pupils may use a portable flash drive to transfer their school work only.

7. Cyberbullying

7.1 At OSCA, cyber bullying is taken seriously.

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

7.3 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.

8. Spot checks

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

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

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

8.4 Pupils 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.

9. Accessing Data

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

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

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

10. Sanctions

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

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

10.3 Confiscated mobile devices will be locked away securely in the Reception safe.

10.4 Confiscated mobile devices must be collected by the pupil's parent/carer on the third and subsequent offence.

10.5 Bullying via mobile device will be disciplined in line with OSCA's Anti-Bullying Policy.

10.6 Pupils caught taking mobile phones into examinations will be banned from bringing devices into the academy and will have their device confiscated until a parent collects it by prior arrangement.

11. Policy review

11.1 This policy is reviewed every two years by OSCA's Governing Body.

11.2 The scheduled review date for this policy is August 2018.

Appendix I: Pupil Personal Electronic Devices Agreement – these documents will feature as part of the home/academy agreement

Pupil Personal Electronic Devices Agreement

I, _____ understand that a personal electronic device is a privilege that may be taken away if I abuse it. I agree to abide by the policy and understand the consequences if I fail to do so.

Signed by

Pupil	Date:
Parent/Carer	Date:
Tutor	Date:

Appendix 2: Parental Personal Electronic Devices Agreement

Parental Personal Electronic Devices Agreement

I, (*parent's name*) _____ recognise that OSCA bears no responsibility for personal electronic devices lost, damaged or stolen on school property or on journeys to and from the academy. I agree to the terms of this policy which can be located on the academy website and will discuss the responsibility of owning a personal electronic device with my child (name) _____. I understand that a teacher may confiscate devices used in an unacceptable manner as detailed in the policy. I also accept responsibility for any material accessed by my child using the personal electronic device whilst on academy premises

Signed by

Parent/Carer Signature:	Date:
Parent/Carer Name:	