

Tudor Grange Academy Redditch

Mobile phone, MP3 player and Games Console Policy

Rationale

Mobile phones are a feature of modern society. TGAR recognises the wishes of a number of parents/carers for students to carry a mobile phone to assist with safe journeys to and from college. Our long-term goal is for all students to have access to a hand-held device during all of their lessons.

Mobile Phone Acceptable Use Policy (Years 9 -11)

It is our policy to allow students to have a mobile phone with them in the Academy should they choose to do so under the conditions outlined in the policy below:

1. Phones must not be used for any purpose (e.g. phoning, texting, surfing the internet, taking photos, checking the time, taking videos) between the hours of 8.45 am and 3.20 pm.
2. Any student bringing a mobile phone or any other form of mobile technology onto the college premises must have a signed 'Acceptable Use Policy' on file at the Academy.
3. Phones must always be switched off (not on silent mode) and kept out of view. If a student breaches these rules the phone will be confiscated and taken to Student Services.
4. Any subsequent breach of the rules or any use of such equipment to record or to download inappropriate material, will result in confiscation until a parent/carer can collect.
5. Phones must not be taken into examinations.

'No Mobile Phones, ipods, MP3 players, pagers or any other products with text/digital facilities are permitted in the examination room. Possession of unauthorised items is an infringement of the regulations and could lead to disqualification from the current examination and the overall qualification. Candidates are advised that mobile phones in particular must not be in their possession whether or not switched on' (Joint Council for Qualifications statement 2008)

Mobile Phone Acceptable Use Policy (Years 12 & 13)

Students in Year 12 and 13 are subjected to the same conditions as those outlined above for Years 9-11, with the exception that they are allowed to use their phones during the Academy day – **in the Post 16 area only.**

Emergencies

If a student needs to contact his/her parents/carers they will be allowed to use an Academy phone. If parents/carers need to contact students urgently they should phone the Academy office and a message will be relayed promptly.

Security for mobile phones and other valuables:

TGAR cannot accept any responsibility for theft, loss, damage or health effects (potential or actual) relating to mobile devices, nor for theft, loss or damage to any other valuable item, or for the theft or loss of money. It is the responsibility of parents/carers and students to ensure mobile phones and other valuables are insured. During PE lessons, or other times when the phone needs to be kept secure, students should keep their phones in the lockers that they have been provided with.

MP3 and other music and multimedia players and hand held games consoles

Students in Years 9-11 should not bring MP3 and/or other music and multimedia players or games consoles into the Academy **at any time** and consequently they should not be used in lessons or around the Academy. The high value of these items creates added security issues within the Academy for both the student and supervising staff. Any student who brings such items into the Academy will be subject to the sanctions described in point 4 above.