



# Sir Christopher Hatton

AN ACADEMY WITH SPECIALIST MATHEMATICS & COMPUTING STATUS

Excellence


Aspiration

Achievement

Inspiration

Community



|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Title</b>               | <b>Mobile Phone Policy</b>  |
| <b>Reviewed</b>            | <b>May 2023</b>   |
| <b>Associated Policies</b> | <b>Anti-Bullying Policy<br/>Online Safety Policy<br/>Searching Pupils and Confiscating<br/>Pupils Property Policy<br/>Complaints Procedure<br/>Keeping Children Safe In Education</b> |
| <b>Originator</b>          | <b>N Salisbury<br/>A Mitchell</b>   |
| <b>Approved</b>            |   |

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## Glossary

|     |                        |
|-----|------------------------|
| AP  | Assistant Principal    |
| CP  | Co-Principal           |
| HOY | Head of Year           |
| ES  | External Suspension    |
| IS  | Internal Suspension    |
| ISE | In-School Exclusion    |
| SLT | Senior Leadership Team |
| VP  | Vice Principal         |

## 1. Ethos Statement

At Sir Christopher Hatton Academy – everyone has the right to be treated with respect and to learn in a safe and orderly environment.

## 2. Background and purpose

At Sir Christopher Hatton Academy (SCHA) we promote honesty, understanding and respect in our students through positive role models (staff), high expectations and high quality, consistent teaching and learning. This is reflected in and further consolidated by our five core Academy values: **Excellence**, **Aspiration**, **Achievement**, **Inspiration** and **Community**.

At Sir Christopher Hatton Academy we recognise that mobile phones, including smart phones, are an important part of everyday life for our pupils, parents and staff, as well as the wider school community. Our policy aims to: Promote, and set an example for, safe and responsible phone use, set clear guidelines for the use of mobile phones for pupils, staff, parents and volunteers. Support the school's other policies, especially those related to child protection and behaviour.

This policy also aims to address some of the challenges posed by mobile phones in school, such as: Safeguarding risks, Risks to child protection, Data protection issues, potential for lesson disruption, risk of theft, loss, or damage and appropriate use of technology in the classroom.

Things that have happened in UK schools and why we need to ensure all our pupils and adults are safe.

- Use of mobile devices for up-skirting and obtaining imagery of genitals
- Pornography and violent content accessed by children's own internet connectivity whilst in school
- Gang culture, knives, extremism content accessed by children's own internet connectivity
- Inappropriate and violent games accessed and played
- Inappropriate and 'dangerous' material stored on personal devices by family members, then accessed without internet connectivity in school
- Pupils contacting family members/ birth family against parental permission
- Pupils taking pictures and videos of staff, creating memes and using VI to distort images, meaning and publishing online, leading to suspension and disciplinary action
- Using images taken of other pupils for bullying and humiliation on social media ➤  
Sharing of personal data on social media inappropriately

## **Students use of mobile phones**

Pupils in all years will be allowed to bring mobile phones onto school site but for students in years 7-11 these will be banned from use whether this be indoors or outdoors. All mobile devices must be switched off and placed in the pupils' bag before they enter the academy site. We appreciate that students in our VI form often require mobile devices for private study, therefore students in years 12 and 13 will be allowed to use mobile devices in designated areas of the academy site.

### **Procedure**

If a child is seen using their mobile phone at the academy it will be confiscated. This simply means that a mobile phone will be confiscated if it is seen on the academy's grounds.

Mobile phones that are seen or heard will be confiscated and stored in a secure place in the learning zone and can only be collected by a student at the end of the academy day.

If a student repeatedly has their mobile phone confiscated the device may be kept until parents/carers make an appointment for it to be collected.

The member of staff who confiscates the mobile phone will store the phone in a secure place and will then take the phone to the learning zone. If the staff member is unable to store the phone securely, they may contact the member of staff who is on call who will take the phone to the learning zone.

This restriction is in place at all times while students are on the grounds of the academy; this includes when students arrive and leave at the end of the day. It is also in place after enrichment clubs and after school reflection have finished. Phones should be turned off (not just put on silent) and put away before students enter the academy gates and not turned on again until they have left the site. Staff supervising the gate at the start of the academy day will remind students to place phones in bags as they enter the grounds of the academy.

We recognise that some parents/carers, in the interests of their child's personal safety, may wish their child to have their mobile phone with them for their journey to and from the academy but must stress the importance of parents/carers clearly communicating that this must be turned off at all times whilst on the academy site.

Students will be able to contact staff on duty/staff running clubs if there is an emergency and they require to speak with their parent/carer although we do not envisage this to be necessary. Whether or not a situation is an emergency can only be determined by a member of staff.

We will ensure that any important messages are relayed to your child through the day if you leave a message at reception. However, please be aware that this facility should only be used for emergencies.

Students who refuse to hand a phone over to a member of staff will be placed in Reflection for the rest of the day. In these instances, parents will be contacted by the relevant Head of Year. Refusal to go into Reflection may result in a Suspension.

\*Please note that if a member of staff does not physically see the phone then this can still be confiscated if they are sure the student has been using it i.e. text has been sent to parents, students are listening to music on their phone.