Whitburn Academy
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Head Teacher: Ms Tracey Loudon

Wednesday 18 November 2026

**Mobile Phone Strategy 2026–27**

Dear Parent/Carer,

At Whitburn Academy, our values of Integrity, Compassion and Respect guide everything we do. We want our young people to be happy, safe and successful. That is why we are introducing a new Mobile Phone Strategy from January 2027.

The main reason for this change is to support the wellbeing of our learners.

Mobile phones are an important part of everyday life. They help us stay connected and access information quickly. However, we also know that constant notifications, social media and messages can sometimes distract young people from learning and affect their wellbeing.

By reducing phone use during lessons, we want to help pupils:

- build positive relationships with others;
- spend more time talking face-to-face;
- feel less pressure from social media during the school day; and
- enjoy a calmer and more positive school environment.

**What will happen?**

At the start of every lesson, pupils will be asked to:

- put their phone on silent or switch it off;
- place it in their bag or in the classroom phone holder; and
- leave it there until the teacher says it can be collected.

This will become part of the normal classroom routine across the school.

Mobile phones can still be used during break and lunch, provided they are used responsibly and respectfully.

**Our values in action**

This strategy reflects the values we want to see every day at Whitburn Academy.

**Integrity** means making responsible choices and following agreed expectations.

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**Compassion** means looking after our own wellbeing and supporting the wellbeing of others.

**Respect** means giving our attention to learning, listening to others and treating people kindly.

By following these expectations, pupils will help create a positive environment where everyone can learn and succeed.

**How can parents and carers help?**

We are grateful for your support in helping your child understand these expectations.

If you need to contact your child during the school day, please do so through the school office. If a pupil needs to contact home, this will normally be arranged through Pupil Support or the school office.

There is no expectation that pupils bring a mobile phone to school as the school can support digital learning through our devices where appropriate.

**Working together**

We know this is a change for some young people. However, we believe it will make a positive difference to learning, relationships and wellbeing across the school.

Thank you for working with us to help make Whitburn Academy a place where young people are present, respectful and engaged, and where everyone can thrive.

More information on our policy can be found on our school website.

Yours sincerely,

**T. Loudon**

**Headteacher**