

# Ysgol Penalltau

*Parch, Parodrwydd, Perthyn*



## Mobile Phone Policy

Author	Issue	Date	Adopted by Governors
T Rainsbury	1	May 2026	✓
T Rainsbury	Review	May 2028	

## **Guidance on Pupil Use of Mobile Phones and Smart Watches**

This policy is to provide guidance and information on some of the issues around children's use and misuse of mobile phones at Ysgol Penalltau. It will clearly set out the schools' expectations and rules around their use.

### **Introduction**

Mobile phones and smart watches are becoming increasingly popular. Mobile phones with a built-in digital camera enables users to take high-resolution pictures. These can be sent instantly to other mobile phone users or email addresses. They can also be posted on the internet or social media apps. Similarly smart watches can be used to make sound recordings or even phone calls. There is a potential for mobile phones & smart watches to be misused in schools: they can become an instrument of bullying or harassment directed against pupils or/and teachers.

### **Example of Misuse of Mobile Phones / Smart Watches**

- Online bullying by text, image and email messaging
- Taking and sharing inappropriate pictures
- Access to inappropriate websites bypassing the school filtering system
- General disruption to learning caused by pupils accessing phones in lessons
- Making disrespectful comments, misrepresenting events or making defamatory remarks about teachers or other pupils
- Pupils phoning parents immediately following an incident so that the ability of staff to deal with an incident is compromised
- Pupils making nuisance phone calls from school site
- Pupils posting material on social network sites with no thought to the risks to their personal reputation and sometimes with the deliberate intention of causing harm to others
- The deliberate engineering of situations where people's reactions are filmed, recorded or photographed in order to humiliate, embarrass and intimidate by publishing to a wider audience such as on Facebook or YouTube
- Publishing photographs of vulnerable pupils, who may be on a child protection plan, where this may put them at additional risk
- The use of a mobile phone for 'sexting' (the deliberate taking and sending of provocative images or text messages)

### **School Rules for Mobile Phones and Smart Watches**

While we fully acknowledge that parents may want or need their child to bring a mobile phone to school, e.g. if they walk to and from school without adult supervision or if they are visiting a relative overnight, we discourage pupils bringing mobile phones to school.

Smart watches that have the capability of making calls, taking pictures or sound recordings **are not permitted in school.**

No child should bring a phone to school without their parent having spoken to the Headteacher in advance.

When a child needs to bring a mobile phone into school, the phone must be handed into the office for safe keeping before the start of the day – it can be collected at the end of the day.

Phones should be clearly marked so that each pupil knows their own phone.

Where a pupil is found by a member of staff to be using a mobile phone or smart watch, the device will be confiscated from the pupil and handed to a member of the senior leadership team, who will contact the parent to collect it.

If a pupil is found taking sound recordings, photographs or video footage with a mobile phone or smart watch, of either other pupils or teachers, this will be regarded as a serious offence and disciplinary action will be taken according to our behaviour policy. If images or sound recordings of other pupils or the teacher have been taken, the phone / watch will not be returned to the pupil until the matter has been dealt with by a senior leader. Should a pupil be found using their phone inappropriately, the school reserves the right to no longer allow children to bring a phone into school.

Parents are advised that Fleur de Lys and Pengam Primary Schools accept no liability for the loss or damage to mobile phones which are brought into school or school grounds and not handed in for safe keeping.

Parents should sign the attached form to acknowledge that they have read, understood and agree to this policy before the child is permitted to bring the phone to school.

Headteacher: Mr T. Rainsbury

Date: 20/05/26

Chair of Governors: Mr A. Hopkin

Date: 20/05/26

**Mobile Phone Parental Consent Letter**

Dear Parent/Carer,

In accordance with our Mobile Phone Policy, if your child is bringing in a mobile phone to school on a regular basis, please could you sign the form below to give your permission for your child to do this and remind them of our school policy.

- ✓ Your child needs to hand their phone into the office first thing in the morning before they enter their classroom or Breakfast Club.
- ✓ The school bears no responsibility for the loss or damage to a mobile phone that has not been handed in for safe keeping.
- ✓ Your child’s phone should be appropriately marked so that it can be recognised as belonging to them
- ✓ Should your child be found using their phone inappropriately, the school reserves the right to withdraw this privilege and they will no longer be able to bring their phone into school.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Mr T. Rainsbury  
Head teacher

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**PHONE PARENTAL CONSENT**

I/we give permission for our child (name) ..... to bring their mobile phone into school.

I/We have read the policy and understand its implications if this device is used inappropriately.

Signed .....

Date.....

**PLEASE RETURN PERMISSION SLIP TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE. THANK YOU.**