



Cell Phone Policy

Preamble

The purpose of this policy is to govern pupils' use of and security of cell phones (and other similar devices) at Peterhouse. It is made with the best intentions for the pupils' wellbeing and to take account of their requirements for essential communications.

General conditions governing use of cell phones

At the beginning of every term all phones of any kind must be registered with the Housemaster/Housemistress for security purposes. Any new phones brought into school during the year must be added to the register.

No cell phone is allowed out of the House unless (with the permission of a coach/Housemaster/Housemistress) it is needed when travelling home or on a long distance sporting fixture. If a cell phone is being used whilst travelling it will be entirely at the coach's discretion and pupils must maintain appropriate cell phone etiquette in public (e.g. pupils should not alight from a bus with earphones/talking on the phone etc.).

The use of cell phones is prohibited at any school fixture. Pupils can use their phone once the fixture is completed to contact parents.

Pupils are not automatically entitled to have access to a cell phone; i.e. if deemed appropriate (i.e. as part of a disciplinary sanction) access may be denied by the school.

The school regards the posting of inappropriate or indecent material on social media as a serious disciplinary offence which will lead to disciplinary action. No pupil may use their phone (or other device) to record (audio or visual) any other person without the prior consent of that person. Sending or forwarding any digital material, even to one person, constitutes posting/ publication of the material. Pupils will be held responsible for the consequences the posted material may cause.

Use of cell phones:

5th and 6th Form

5th and 6th Form are:

- i. allowed to use their phones in the House only subject to the following restriction:
 - a. phones will be handed in after prep (21.00) Sunday to Thursday (phones will be returned to the pupils at roll call the following morning).

A, B, C Block

A block, B block and C block pupils are:

- i. allowed to use their phones in the House only, subject to the following restrictions:
 - a. The type of phones allowed:
 - i. A block pupils are allowed smartphones
 - ii. B Block and C Block are allowed bricks only
 - iii. International pupils are allowed to have access to a smartphone for travel to/from school (on arrival at school the phone should be handed in to the pupil's Housemaster/Housemistress)
 - b. Access to their phones (smart or brick phones):
 - i. Weekdays.
 - Phones can be signed out by pupils at 13.30 on Tuesday and 15.30 on Thursday.
 - Phones must be handed in by 19.00 (evening roll call) on the same day.

ii. Weekends.

- Friday: Phones can be signed out by pupils going on a floating or an away sporting fixture. Pupils attending a sports' fixture are required to hand in their phone on their return to PH on Friday evening.
- Saturday: Phones can be signed out by pupils at Saturday morning roll call and must be handed back on Sunday evening roll call.

ii. Phones must be handed in prior to any prep session.

iii. Phones are locked in the House office and safe facility at all other times.

D Block

D Block pupils are:

- i. not permitted any cell phone (brick or smart phone) whilst at school.
- ii. International pupils are allowed to have access to a smartphone for travel to/from school (on arrival at school the phone should be handed in to the pupil's Housemaster/Housemistress)

Neither the School nor its employees are responsible for any valuables, including cell phones that are brought to school.

Sanctions

Pupils in breach of the guidelines above will be subject to the full range of disciplinary sanctions depending on the nature of the offence.

More specifically the following sanctions will apply:

- i. if a cell phone is used outside of the House at School, it may be confiscated for a period of 3 weeks. For a second offence, the cell phone may be confiscated for a period of 6 weeks;
- ii. if the pupil is seen using a phone during an away sporting fixture, it will be confiscated until the end of the fixture; and
- iii. pupils using mobile devices for posting of inappropriate or indecent material risk losing the cell phone privilege altogether and being sanctioned according other relevant school policies.

Pupils in possession of second or illegal devices will have the device confiscated, and lose above cell phone privileges for three months on a first offence and a year on the second offence.