



**GEORGE  
SALTER  
ACADEMY**



## **Personal Electronic Devices Policy**

**Policy Prepared by:** OAT

**Responsible for policy:** Mr R Reeve (Vice Principal)

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# Personal Electronic Devices Policy

## Policy Version Control

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## 1. Statement of intent

George Salter Academy accepts that personal mobile phones and tablets are often given to pupils by their parents to ensure their safety and personal security.

Mobile phones, digital music players and other personal electronic devices have become more widely available.

As a school, we must make a sensible and practical response. We understand that parents wish their children to carry a mobile phone for their personal safety, whilst students may wish to bring additional devices to the academy for other reasons, however, the Academy has a no mobile phone policy. If students are seen with their mobile phones out then they will be confiscated and returned at the end of the following day. The Academy takes no responsibility for any such devices that are brought on to the site.

## 2. Key roles and responsibilities

- 2.1 The governing body has overall responsibility for the implementation of the personal electronic devices policy and procedures of George Salter Academy.
- 2.2 The governing body has overall responsibility for ensuring that the Personal Electronic Devices Policy, as written, does not discriminate on any grounds, including but not limited to ethnicity/national origin, culture, religion, gender, disability or sexual orientation.
- 2.3 The governing body has overall responsibility for reviewing the Personal Electronic Devices Policy every two years.
- 2.4 The principal has responsibility for handling complaints regarding this policy as outlined in the academy's Complaints Policy.
- 2.5 The principal will be responsible for the day-to-day implementation and management of the personal electronic devices policy and procedures of George Salter Academy.

## 3. General property

- 3.1 Pupils are responsible for their own belongings and the Academy takes no responsibility for these.
- 3.2 Exercise books, planners, text books, electronic equipment, stationary and folders issued by George Salter Academy remain the property of the academy and should be treated as such.
- 3.3 Pupils are responsible for replacing lost or damaged academy property, including electronic devices.

## 4. Personal electronic devices

- 4.1 Personal electronic devices include, but are not limited to, existing and emerging:

- 4.2 Mobile communication systems and smart technologies (mobile phones, iPhones, Smartphones, internet-enabled phones, smart watches etc.).
- 4.3 Personal Digital Assistants (PDA) (Palm organizers, pocket PCs, etc.)
- 4.4 Handheld entertainment systems (video games, CD players, compact DVD players, MP3 players, iPods, earphones, etc.).
- 4.5 Portable internet devices (mobile messengers, iPads, etc.).
- 4.6 Wireless handheld technologies or portable information technology systems (used for word processing, wireless internet access, image capture/recording, sound recording, and information transmitting/receiving/storing, etc.).
- 4.7 George Salter Academy acknowledges the increasing use of mobile technology as part of the curriculum and only devices provided by the Academy are allowed, with the exception of personal computers for Sixth Form students.
- 4.8 Parents/carers should be aware if their child takes a mobile phone or tablet to school.
- 4.9 George Salter Academy accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile devices either at the academy, or travelling to and from the academy.

## 5. Acceptable use

- 5.1 Mobile devices should be switched off and kept out of sight whilst students are on the Academy premises.
- 5.2 Mobile phones should only be used for voice calls with the express permission of their parents and teachers and for emergencies only.
- 5.3 In an emergency, and with the permission of Academy staff, pupils may be allowed to use soundless features such as text messaging, answering services, call diversion and vibration alert to receive important calls.
- 5.4 Mobile devices should not be used in any manner or place that is disruptive to the normal routine of the academy.
- 5.5 Pupils are responsible for protecting their own personal information including their phone number.

## 6. Unacceptable use

- 6.1 Unless express permission is granted, mobile devices should not be used to make calls, send SMS messages, iMessages or emails, take photos or use any other application whilst on Academy premises or whilst on Academy activities.
- 6.2 Files should not be sent between mobile devices and Bluetooth and WIFI functions should be disabled while on academy premises.
- 6.3 If pupils fall ill during academy hours, they must not use their mobile device to contact parents/carers; they should use the agreed procedures.

- 6.4 Under no circumstances should mobile devices be taken into examinations.
- 6.5 Under no circumstances should mobile devices be used in changing rooms or toilets.
- 6.6 Personal laptops, mobile phones or tablets must not be plugged in to outlets on the academy premises without the express permission of the Principal and an up-to-date portable appliance test (PAT).
- 6.7 Pupils may use a portable flash drive to transfer academy work only.

## 7. Cyberbullying

- 7.1 At George Salter Academy, cyber bullying is taken seriously.
- 7.2 Incidents of cyber bullying will be dealt with and reported along the same chain as the Anti-Bullying Policy.
- 7.3 As part of our on-going commitment to the prevention of cyber bullying, regular education and discussion about e-safety will take place as part of computing and PSHE.

## 8. Spot checks

- 8.1 Any teacher or staff member may ask any pupil to show them what they are doing on their mobile phone or tablet at any time.
- 8.2 Any teacher or staff member may ask any pupil to give them their portable flash drive at any time.
- 8.3 Pupils are required to comply with any request to check their mobile phone, tablet or flash drive.
- 8.4 Pupils are required to comply with any request to disable the screen lock function of their phone and show any teacher or staff member what they are doing.

## 9. Accessing Data

- 9.1 Downloading and accessing inappropriate websites and data on academy personal electronic devices is strictly prohibited.
- 9.2 Using the personal data of any pupil or member of staff for non-work related activity is strictly prohibited.
- 9.3 More information about accessing data can be found in our Data Protection Policy.

## 10. Sanctions

- 10.1 Using a mobile device can only be done following appropriate permissions from Academy staff, which can be revoked at any time.

- 10.2 Any pupil caught breaking the Personal Electronic Devices Policy will have their mobile device confiscated until the end of the following day.
- 10.3 Confiscated mobile devices will be locked away securely in the pupil's Pastoral Office or nearest Pastoral Office.
- 10.4 Confiscated mobile devices will be available for collection at the end of the following Academy day, by the pupil in the first instance. Where a pupil has their device confiscated on multiple occasions, a parent/carer may be asked to attend the Academy to collect it.
- 10.5 Bullying via mobile device will be disciplined in line with George Salter Academy Anti-Bullying Policy.
- 10.6 Pupils caught taking mobile phones or tablets into examinations will be banned from bringing devices into the academy and will have their device confiscated until the end of term. They will also face sanctions agreed by examination boards.

## 11. Policy review

- 11.1 This policy is reviewed every two years.
- 11.2 The scheduled review date for this policy is April 2019.

# Appendix I: Pupil Personal Electronic Devices Agreement

## Pupil Personal Electronic Devices Agreement

I, \_\_\_\_\_ understand that a personal electronic device is a privilege that may be taken away if I abuse it. I agree to abide by the policy and understand the consequences if I fail to do so.

**Signed by**

<b>Pupil</b>	<b>Date:</b>
<b>Parent/Carer</b>	<b>Date:</b>
<b>Class Teacher</b>	<b>Date:</b>



## Appendix 2: Parental Personal Electronic Devices Agreement

### Parental Personal Electronic Devices Agreement

I, \_\_\_\_\_ recognise that George Salter Academy bears no responsibility for personal electronic devices lost, damaged or stolen on school property or on journey's to and from the academy. I agree to the terms of this policy and will discuss with them the responsibility of owning a personal electronic device with my child (name) \_\_\_\_\_. I understand that a teacher may confiscate devices used in an unacceptable manner as detailed in the policy.

Signed by

Parent/Carer	Date:
Class Teacher	Date: