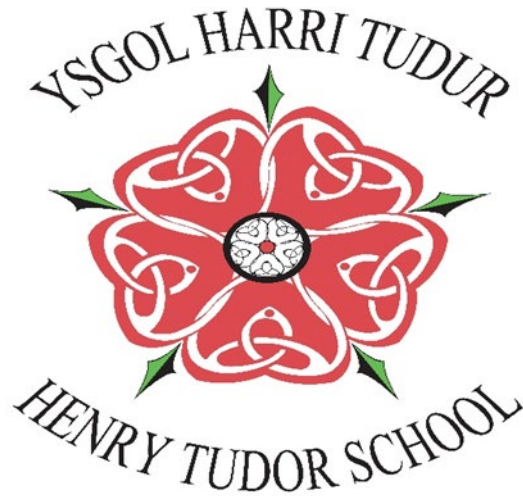


**Ysgol Harri Tudur**



**Henry Tudor School**

# Mobile Phones and Smart Devices Policy

Adopted by the Governing Body Resources Committee: Autumn 2024  
Review 3 Yearly  
Next Review: Autumn 2027

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# Mobile Phones and Smart Devices

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## Introduction

Ysgol Harri Tudur/Henry Tudor School recognises that mobile phones and devices can present significant challenges to how learners behave and learn in school. There is mounting evidence suggesting that the uncontrolled use of mobile phones and smart devices within schools is having a detrimental impact on learners' mental health and academic progress, while also adversely impacting on school staff who have to address resulting problems. The detrimental impacts have been highlighted by Estyn.

## Policy Aim

By creating Ysgol Harri Tudur/Henry Tudor School as a mobile free school, this policy aims to help establish a calm, safe, and supportive learning environment conducive to teaching and keeping learners' safe. It complements the school's safeguarding, bullying and behaviour policies.

It is intended that this policy will contribute to:

- Reducing distractions in lessons
- Reducing staff time spent on mobile-related matters
- Improving academic performance
- Enhancing social interactions between students
- Tackling cyberbullying
- Promoting learners' health and well-being
- Strengthening learners' resilience
- Preventing security/safeguarding concerns related to video recordings
- Preventing cheating
- Supporting equality

This policy employs the general term "mobile phones" to encompass a range of smart devices that learners might bring to school, which could include smartwatches, tablets, music players, and gaming consoles.

## Policy Principles

Ideally learners should leave their phone at home during school days. If learners do bring their mobile phone/smart device to school, from September 2024 they will be required to place the item into a secure container at the start of morning mentor period. The item can then be collected by the learner at the end of the school day, again during mentor time. The school day has been adjusted to allow this to occur.

There is no change to the existing policy in that Ysgol Harri Tudur/Henry Tudor School does not accept responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or mobile phone/devices. Ysgol Harri Tudur/Henry Tudor School is also not responsible for any mobile phone/device that are brought to school by learners. Learners will be responsible for placing the item into the secure container and to collect the item at the end of the day.

The same principle will apply to learners who arrive late or who are involved in school-related activities. Learners will be required to place the item into a secure container at Reception.

### **Exceptions**

Ysgol Harri Tudur/Henry Tudor School accepts that there may be exceptions to this policy, such as for those learners needing a device for monitoring blood sugar levels. Such exceptions will need to be requested in writing with a full justification and will only be approved by the Head or Deputy Head; the outcome will be recorded on a learners medical care plan and/or the school's data management system.

### **Breaches and Sanctions**

Learners who refuse to adhere to this policy will have their phone confiscated, to be collected by a responsible adult at the end of the school day. The phone will not be returned to the learner.

### **Policy Review**

In line with all Ysgol Harri Tudur/Henry Tudor School policies, this policy will be reviewed 3 Yearly by the School's Governing Body.

Adopted September 2024

Review 3 Yearly