

Gorffennaf 16 2026

Annwyl Rhiant / Gofalwr

### **Change to Mobile Phone and Electronic Device Policy from September**

Following updated guidance from Welsh Government, a review of the latest evidence and the decision by UK Government to ban social media use for under 16s, we have made the decision to ban mobile phones and other associated electrical devices from being used across the whole school site, including outdoor spaces. This will take effect from the new school year in September.

#### **Why we extended the ban**

Our previous policy kept phones out of lessons, but allowed use outside the building at break and lunch. Governors reviewed national and international evidence and found that unstructured social time is where most phone-related bullying and social difficulties actually occur — and where a full ban makes the biggest difference.

In Norway, full school-day bans reduced bullying by around **43–46%** and improved the social climate, particularly for girls. A Dutch government survey of 317 secondary schools found **75%** reported better concentration and around 60% a better social atmosphere.

#### **Ongoing Education and Support**

Whilst this change in policy will limit use during the school day, we are aware that young people may continue to have an unhealthy relationship with their phone or social media outside of school. This is why we are pairing the ban with structured digital literacy teaching — covering social media, sleep, online behaviour and misinformation — so pupils develop skills that go beyond the school gate. When used responsibly, phones and digital platforms can clearly be useful.

#### **How this will work from September**

We strongly encourage all students, if they own a phone or associated electrical device to leave them at home. If it is essential that a student has their phone for the commute to or from school then it must be turned off and stored in their bag or locker.

- Mobile phones and electrical devices must not be used or visible anywhere on school site including during transitions between lessons and break and lunch times
- Students who need to contact home must do so via the school office
- If parents need to contact their child, they must do so via the school office
- Devices seen or used at school will be confiscated immediately
- Repeat offences will result in further sanctions

**Learning together  
Working together  
Succeeding together**



### **Exceptional Circumstances**

Where a student requires a device for medical reasons, arrangements will be agreed in advance with a member of the Senior Leadership Team. There may be times during the year where use will be authorised, students will be notified in advance if this is the case.

I hope as parents and carers you will understand our reasoning for this change and support us by ensuring your child adheres to the new rules from September. This change in policy has been deemed with the wellbeing, safety and learning of all our students in mind.

Yours faithfully

Paul Smith  
Headteacher