



Determination Confidence
Teamwork Community
Encouragement Trust

Crieff High School



Mobile Device Policy



Education and Learning
Improving Lives Together
Ambition | Compassion | Integrity

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Introduction

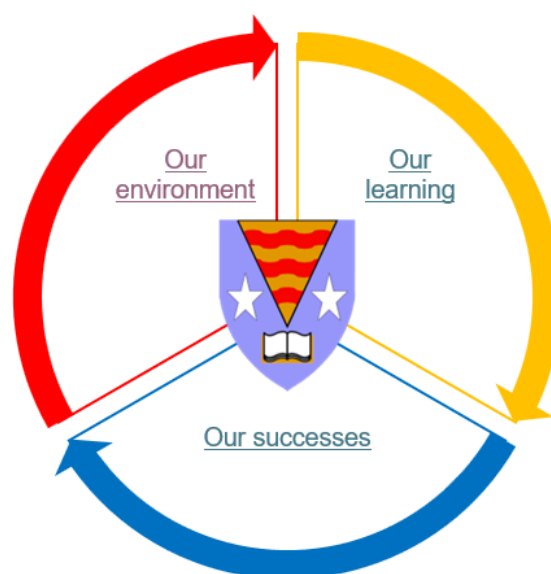
At Crieff High School, our **vision** is to be a rights respecting school that nurtures, encourages and inspires young people to be the best they can be.

Our school **values** encompass personal values, collective values and relational values.

- Personal values – **Determination** and **Confidence**
- Collective values – **Teamwork** and **Community**
- Relational values – **Encouragement** and **Trust**

Our School **Aims** are represented within a Curriculum rationale graphic of Our environment, Our learning, Our successes and are articulated as:

- Our school environment is inclusive, nurturing and rights respecting.
- Our learning is inspiring, motivating and develops skills for learning, life and work.
- Our successes are recognised, celebrated and shared by our school



Looking Inwards

Crieff High School Context

Through the school values of Trust and Community, Crieff High School is committed to providing a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment for all young people. We aim to support young people to achieve their potential which we know requires an excellent learning and teaching environment. We have noticed that for many pupils, mobile phones have become a distraction to their learning and in some instances have impacted negatively on their wellbeing and relationships with peers.

In session 2024-25 an average of 72 mobile device misuse demerits were issued per week in the classroom which will have impacted on young people's focus and concentration on their learning.

The implementation of the new mobile device policy aims to:

- Enhance learning and teaching experiences through the reduced disruption caused by inappropriate use of digital devices.
- Improve communication and social experiences for children and young people.
- Ensure there are fewer incidents of bullying, harassment, and misuse of mobile technology.
- Create an increased sense of security for young people, their parents/carers and staff by safeguarding against unauthorised recording/photographing.

Supporting Wellbeing

The GIRFEC approach provides a consistent framework and shared language for promoting, supporting, and safeguarding the wellbeing of children and young people. Through a common understanding of wellbeing, Crieff High School recognises that young people need to grow up safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included.

As a Gold Rights Respecting School, The United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) is embedded in the approaches within our school. We have a responsibility to support young people to feel valued and respected, develop self-esteem, a sense of belonging, and feel safe.



- ✓ Article 3 The right for my best interests to be the top priority
- ✓ Article 12 Respect for the views of the child
- ✓ Article 16 Right to Privacy
- ✓ Article 28 Right to education
- ✓ Article 34 Sexual exploitation

Views of Stakeholders

The views of young people, parents/carers and staff have contributed towards the development of Crieff High School's Mobile Device Policy.

Young People

Views of young people were gathered through a series of focus groups with Form Representatives following year group assemblies.

In the review of the management of mobile devices in Crieff High School, 53% of young people felt the previous sanction of phone removal after 3 demerits was appropriate, while 47% of young people suggested a move to 2 demerits.

In the previous policy young people were not permitted to have to have their mobile device on them for one week if they gained 3 demerits in the previous week. 45% of young people agreed that this was an appropriate length of time but 55% felt that the sanction should increase for each subsequent incidence.

Staff

Following consultation with school staff, 77% of all teaching staff agreed or strongly agreed to move to a mobile free environment in Crieff High School.

In the review of the management of mobile devices in Crieff High School, 39% of staff felt the previous sanction of phone removal after 3 demerits was appropriate, while 32% of staff suggested a move to 2 demerits and 29% of staff suggested a move to 1 demerit for this sanction.

In the previous policy young people were not permitted to have to have their mobile device on them for one week if they gained 3 demerits in the previous week. 74% of staff agreed that this was an appropriate length of time.

Consultaion was carried out with school staff after 2 weeks of implementation of the policy. 93% of staff felt that the policy had been very effective or effective in improving the environment for the young people of Crieff High School.

Parents/Carers

A consultation with the Crieff High School Parent Council was held, during which they strongly recommended implementing a mobile device free school environment. They also expressed the view that this would be a positive support for the mental health of the young people of Crieff High School.

Looking Outwards

National Context

[*Guidance on Mobile Phones in Scotland's Schools 2024*](#)

This guidance document, issued by the Scottish Government, provides non-statutory advice to support schools and local authorities in developing effective mobile phone policies. It aims to balance the educational and social benefits of mobile technology with the need to reduce distractions, safeguard wellbeing, and promote responsible use. The guidance encourages whole-school engagement in policy development and offers practical frameworks focused on digital etiquette, rights and responsibilities, and safe usage. It recognises exceptions for learners with additional needs and emphasises the importance of equity and inclusion.

[*The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child \(UNCRC\)*](#) is a complete statement of children's rights. The Convention has 54 articles that cover all aspects of a child's life and set out the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights that all children everywhere are entitled to. It also explains how adults and governments must work together to make sure all children can enjoy all their rights.

[*Getting it right for every child \(GIRFEC\)*](#) (2022) is the Scottish Government's commitment to provide all children, young people and their families with the right support at the right time. This is so that every child and young person in Scotland can reach their full potential.

Other secondary schools across Scotland are moving to be mobile free environments.

[*Berwickshire High School Mobile Phone Policy*](#)

Park Mains High School Mobile Phone Policy

Local Context

[*Perth & Kinross Council's Personal Mobile Device Policy for Schools 2025 -2028*](#)

provides a structured and flexible framework for managing the use of personal mobile devices during school. Following consultation with young people, parent/carers and school staff, the policy aims to create a calm, focused, and inclusive learning environment while safeguarding wellbeing and digital responsibility.

Looking Forwards

Crieff High School Mobile Device Policy

This Mobile Device Policy outlines the procedures for the use of mobile devices in Crieff High School and aims to:

- Provide all young people and staff with clear guidance on the use of mobile devices in Crieff High School.
- Explain the processes and procedures used in Crieff High School to support young people to adhere to this policy.

Mobile Devices – Young People

- Within the school building mobile phones should not be seen or heard during the school day.
- Young people should ensure that their mobile device is switched off and placed in their schoolbag (not in pockets) before entering the school building each morning. Phones should only be switched back on when pupils have left the school building.
- After intervals and lunchtimes, young people must switch their phone off and place it in their schoolbag before re-entering the building.
- Earphones/Bluetooth headphones should not be used or visible in the school building
- All Smartwatches should have alerts turned off.
- School trips – a sensible and appropriate use of mobile devices on school trips as advised by school staff.



Mobile Devices – School Staff & Campus Partners

All school staff and campus partners will follow the same guidance and ensure that their mobile devices are not visible within the school building.

Exemptions

As outlined in the National Guidance and Perth & Kinross Policy, exemptions will be considered. The Guidance teachers will discuss and agree a way forward with young people and families on an individual needs based assessment.

Exemptions may be given for the following reasons:

- Young carers who require ongoing contact with family members
- Young people who have medical conditions that require monitoring using mobile technology
- Young people with additional support needs where access to their mobile phone is used as part of a planned approach to managing their learning needs
- Young people who require noise cancelling headphones/earplugs can continue to use these supports as long as they are not connected to an electronic device.

If you wish to discuss an exemption please contact the young person's Principal Teacher of Guidance.

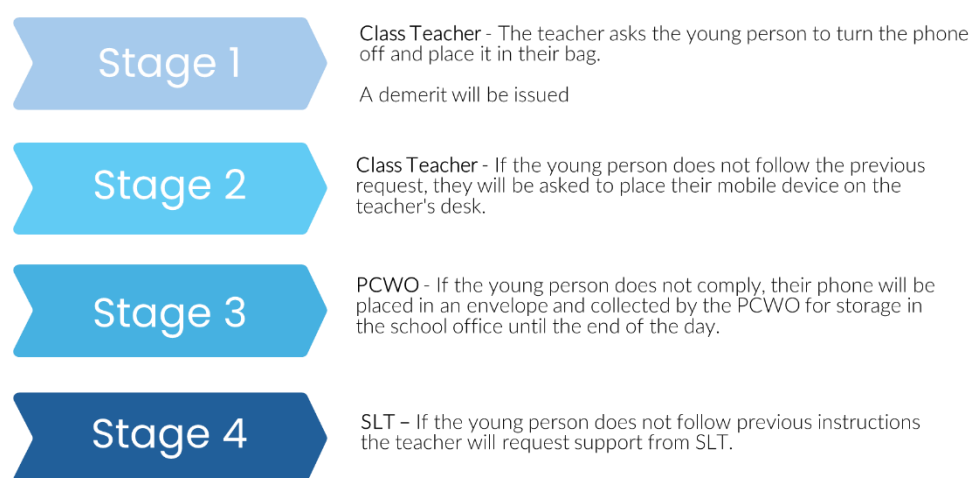
Barvick House
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Turret House

Mrs Alison Walker
Mr Sam Davidson
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Management of Mobile Devices

To support young people to make appropriate choices regarding the use of mobile devices in Crieff High School a staged intervention approach will be used to support their engagement in their learning as shown below.



If a young person uses a mobile device for the purposes of bullying/harassment, filming fights, sharing indecent images or posting images of pupils/staff then further sanctions will be implemented.

[Crieff High School's Anti-Bullying Policy](#) procedures will be followed for any bullying concerns and the procedures in [Crieff High School's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy](#) will be followed for safeguarding concerns.

Mobile Device Demerits

- Parents & Carers will be informed through groupcall at the end of the day if their young person receives a mobile device demerit during the school day.
- If a young person receives 3 or more mobile device demerits, they will not be permitted to have their phone in school the following week. They must leave their phone at home or hand it into the school office every morning.

Contact with home

If parents/carers need to contact their young person during the school day they should contact the school office on 01764 657600. The office staff will ensure information is swiftly passed to the young person.

If young people need to contact a parent or carer during the school day they should present at the school office where they will be given the opportunity to call their parent/carer - using a school phone where possible. Alternatively they can contact parents using their mobile device at break and lunchtime outside of the school building.

Policy Review

The Crieff High School Mobile Device Policy was produced in September 2025. This policy will be reviewed after one year.