



# Ysgol Bae Baglan

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Dear Parent/Carer,

As part of our ongoing work to improve learning, wellbeing and safety across the school, the Headteacher and Governing Body have agreed a significant change to our approach to mobile phones and personal digital devices.

From our return to school after February Half Term, pupils will no longer be permitted to use mobile phones or personal digital devices at any point during the school day. This includes from the moment pupils arrive on site until they leave the site at the end of the day, and it applies to all supervised school activities. Pupils can bring phones to school, but they should not be seen, heard or used at any time during the school day.

This change reflects growing national evidence, local school experience and our own ongoing challenges. Although we have worked hard over the years to educate pupils on safe, appropriate and responsible use of devices, it has become increasingly clear that the current approach is no longer delivering the consistency or level of safety our young people deserve. Too many issues linked to mobile phone use continue to affect learning, relationships and wellbeing.

### *Why this change is needed*

In recent years, research and national guidance have increasingly shown that limiting mobile phone use in school improves pupils' focus, reduces online conflict, and supports emotional wellbeing. Schools locally and across Wales have reported calmer lessons, improved behaviour, fewer distractions and reduced peer conflict after adopting similar approaches. *We want those same benefits for our pupils.*

At Ysgol Bae Baglan we remain committed to teaching pupils how to navigate the digital world safely, but we also recognise that a consistently distraction-free learning environment is essential. This change supports our values of being **Ready, Respectful and Safe** and will help pupils concentrate, engage positively and make the most of their learning.

### *Medical Exemptions*

We are aware that some pupils rely on health-related devices and medical technology. These will continue to be supported. We will ensure that individual arrangements are put in place.

### *Consequences and Further Guidance*

Full guidance for families, pupils and staff will be shared before the change comes into force.

However, parents should be aware that:

- staff may confiscate devices that are seen, heard or used during the school day until the end of the day
- consequences will align with our Discipline for Learning Policy

We will publish a full Standard Operating Procedure to explain how the policy will be applied consistently and fairly.

*We want to hear your views*

Before finalising our guidance and procedures, we are inviting parents, pupils and staff to share any comments, questions or concerns. This feedback will help us shape the final policy in a way that is workable, clear and supportive for everyone.

Parents: Please share your views using our online form:

<https://forms.office.com/e/GEm5ZUQKTe>

Pupil and staff and other stakeholder feedback will be collected separately.

Thank you for your continued support as we take this important step to strengthen learning, wellbeing and safety across the school. We will let you know when this rule is changing soon.

Yours faithfully,  
Headteacher  
Ysgol Bae Baglan