



Britannica International School

Budapest

an Orbital Education School

Secondary Mobile Phone Policy

Updated: October 2022

Person Responsible: Head of Secondary

Review Date: October 2023

Greg Barker

BRITANNICA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL BUDAPEST

Introduction

Britannica International School accepts that some parents give their children mobile phones to protect them from everyday risks involving personal security and safety.

It is acknowledged that providing a child with a mobile phone gives some parents reassurance that they can contact their child if they need to speak to them urgently.

It is worth noting that **mobile phones are not used by primary school students** and parents are able to use the school office to get important messages to their children during the school day. This should also be the case in secondary school.

Our request to parents is to not give their child an internet enabled mobile phone to bring to school.

If parents feel the **need to have the ability** to contact their child, a phone without internet capability would be more appropriate for school.

Parents have expressed concerns about the amount of time young people are spending on mobile phones, particularly on social media and online gaming. The school acknowledges that we are unable to 'police' the content of mobile phones and therefore, if a parent has any concerns in this area, **please do not give your child a mobile phone** that can use these areas of the internet, and if you do, please instruct them carefully about using it appropriately and safely.

The Policy

This policy is about the school day which runs from 08:00 – 15:30 (or 4:30 if attending an ECA)

- Britannica International School Budapest **strongly requests that you do not let your child bring a smart mobile phone to school** – *Please refer to Bring Your Own Device Policy*
- The school is unable to monitor the usage and content of mobile phones
- The decision to provide a mobile phone to their children should be made by parents. Parents should be aware if their child takes a mobile phone to school.
- The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones.
- Mobile phones (*if parents decide to allow their child to bring to school*) are not to be used or taken into changing rooms or toilets or used in any situation that may cause embarrassment or discomfort to their fellow students, staff or visitors to the school.
- Mobile phones must be turned off in lessons (**unless agreed for a specific purpose with the class teacher**)
- Mobile phones must not be used in the canteen
- Phones may be confiscated if used inappropriately and the decision about when to return the phone lies solely with the teacher. Please note that **teachers may not be available to return phones at the end of a school day** due to other commitments.