



Parent and Carer Agreement For Use of Digital Devices

3 year review cycle.

Date for Review: March 2022

For internal use only:

Policy last reviewed:	March 2019	Policy reviewed by:	Mike Kemlo
SLT responsibility:	School Business Manager	Approved by Board of Governors:	
Approval required from:	Governing Board	Requirement:	Non-Statutory

1. Introduction

At Bradstow School we actively encourage use of electrical equipment to help enhance the education of our young people. There are computers and electronic devices in the classrooms and home environments which young people have opportunity to access frequently. Young people may want to bring in iPads, mobile phones, and other gaming devices from home. To safeguard the children and young people we have produced this agreement.

2. All Digital Devices

Digital devices that have access to data (4G, etc.) are not permitted to be used in school, as internet traffic cannot be filtered or monitored. Most mobile phone providers enable the contract holder to have speech and text only and to block 18+ content.

It is a requirement that all digital and electrical devices brought into the school must be passed through the IT department. This enables a PAT (Portable Appliance Test) to be carried out which conforms to the Health and Safety guidelines, which is then logged. This also includes any electrical chargers.

A note will also be taken of the device's serial number, as well as the Wi-Fi MAC address for monitoring & safeguarding purposes.

3. Internet Access

Internet access is available throughout the school site. This is filtered and monitored on a regular basis. Wi-Fi access is available in the homes from 7.30am in the morning until 10.00pm in the evening.

4. Digital devices: iPads/Tablets/Handheld gaming devices (PSP/Gameboy etc.)

- A young person can bring a digital device in from home. However, bringing it to and from home is strongly discouraged.
- In the interests of safeguarding, whenever a digital device is brought back into the school after a holiday or short break, the content of the device will need to be checked by the Home Manager or Deputy straight away.
- Restrictions will be put on the device, which are password protected, to prevent the young person from accessing Apps and websites that may have inappropriate content or that are not allowed in the school environment (this includes all social networking Apps regardless of young person's age). The school reserves the right to determine what is deemed inappropriate content.
- No Apps or games that are a certificate 18 are permitted on the school property regardless of the age of the young person.
- If you would like to request an App to be added to the allowed list then please email: info@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk.
- The amount of time spent on digital devices will be built into the young person's day and monitored accordingly. This is to encourage all young people to engage in the waking curriculum available while here at Bradstow School.
- Young people will have a time at night that the device will need to be switched off for bedtime and if necessary the device locked in the staff office overnight. This time will be dependent on the age of the young person.

5. Mobile phones

Phones are to remain in the home and not permitted to be taken into class or anywhere on the school site during the school day. If a young person has a mobile phone then a list of authorised names and numbers stored within the address book must be checked frequently. These contacts must be authorised by the parent or carer and if a new number is added, this must be checked with the parent or carer. These requirements are in the interests of safeguarding.

Young people can contact their families using the school phones whenever they wish. Likewise, parents are encouraged to contact their child whenever they wish and can email. Parents and carers are asked to remember that their child may not always be able to speak on the phone as they may be offsite on an activity or engaged in an activity in a different area of the school or home.

6. Use of Social Media

The use of any social media is not permitted within Bradstow. This includes (but is not limited to) Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat.

7. Email

Each young person has an email account set up for them when they arrive at Bradstow.

Access to emails is supervised to ensure the young people are using it appropriately and are only sending and receiving emails from people they know. We ask parents to supply a list of contacts that their child might send and receive emails from. This may include siblings and extended family.

Any use of email addresses sent by young people that are not sent from the identified email account from the school must be reported to the school immediately to ensure young people are safely communicating with others.

8. Skype/Facetime

Young people are encouraged to use visual programmes such as Skype or Facetime to stay in regular contact with their family. This will take place in the privacy of the House office. Staff will be present to help support the young person as and when necessary. We encourage families to arrange days and times that they would like to do this so that it can be arranged and the appropriate supports can be in place.

9. Related Policies

1. Online Safety Policy
2. ICT Social Media Policy

Please complete, sign and return to the school:

Child or young person: _____

Parent/carer's signature: _____

Parent/carer (Please print name in Block capitals): _____

Date: _____