

GFM Mobile Phone Policy

Policy Updated By	Latest Publish Date	Monitoring Cycle
Jacqueline Morris Akram Tarik	March 2025	Annually

Schedule for Development / Monitoring / Review

This policy was approved by the Governing Body on:	March 2025
The implementation of this policy will be monitored by the:	Principal and Senior Leadership Team
The Policy will be reviewed annually, or more regularly in the light of any significant new developments. The next anticipated review date will be:	March 2026
Should serious incidents take place, the following external persons/agencies should be informed:	Akram Tarik (Principal) and Jacqueline Morris (Vice Principal)

This policy is applied at GFM alongside our school’s vision, mission and values. Interwoven with the framework of “The GFM Way”, principles of High-Performance Learning; values, attitudes, attributes and A.C.P. Characteristics.

Policy Overview:

At GEMS Founders School Al Mizhar (GFM), we recognize that digital practices are evolving, and students may require access to mobile phones for educational use and security purposes. This policy aligns with KHDA guidelines to ensure a safe and controlled digital environment within the school.

I. Key Principles:

1. **Safety & Security** – All mobile device usage must prioritize student safety and adhere to safeguarding protocols.
2. **Educational Purpose** – Mobile phones should only be used for approved learning activities under teacher supervision.
3. **Responsible Digital Citizenship** – Students, staff, and parents must understand and practice ethical mobile device usage.
4. **Monitoring & Supervision** – Active supervision will be enforced to mitigate risks associated with mobile phone use.
5. **Parental Responsibility** – Parents must support school policies by ensuring responsible device use at home.

Vision

‘At GFM we empower students to have the heart to celebrate uniqueness and the mind to be innovative, creative problem solvers, bringing a positive change to the world in which we live.’

II. Mobile Phone Usage Guidelines:

- **Mobile phones must be switched off and stored in student bags upon entering the school premises.**
- Unauthorized mobile phone use during school hours (**7:30 AM – 3:00 PM**) will result in disciplinary action as per behavior policy.
- Phones can be used outside of the building after 3:00 PM.
- Parents must contact **Reception** in case of an emergency instead of directly calling students.

III. Acceptable Use & Consequences for Misuse:

- Any transmission of **vulgar, obscene, defamatory, or derogatory content** via mobile devices will result in confiscation and disciplinary action in line with the school policy.
- **Cyberbullying, harassment, or inappropriate use of social media (WhatsApp, Instagram, Snapchat, etc.)** will be addressed per the **GFM Anti-Bullying, Safeguarding and Behaviour Policies** and may lead to suspension or expulsion.
- Sharing **unauthorized images/videos of staff or students** within or outside school premises is strictly prohibited. Disciplinary action will be taken in line with the school policy.

IV. Education & Digital Responsibility:

- Students will participate in **Digital Citizenship Programs** to understand responsible technology use.
- **Parent & Staff Training Sessions** will be conducted to promote awareness of mobile device policies.
- The school will implement **active monitoring tools/procedures** to ensure compliance with security guidelines.

V. Review & Compliance:

- This policy will be reviewed annually, in line with KHDA directives.
- Staff, students, and parents must acknowledge this policy upon device registration at the start of the academic year.
- **Supporting Policies:**
The Policy is written considering KHDA's position on the use of personal mobile phones by students in schools issued March 2025.

Vision

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This policy should be read alongside:

- **GFM Behavior Policy**
- **Anti-Bullying Policy**
- **Safeguarding & Inclusion Policy**
- **BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) Policy**
- **Parent & Student Cybersecurity Guide**
- **Acceptable Use Policy**

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