



Robert–Jungk–Oberschule

Sekundarschule mit gymnasialer Oberstufe

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Letter to parents no. 04 **Cell phones at school**

Dear parents and guardians,

In recent weeks, we have noticed that there have been an increasing number of serious violations of the cell phone policy at our school. For example, classmates have been filmed or photographed in various situations. These recordings were distributed via various channels (messenger services, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, etc.). Some of the videos were also “sold” in the school playground.

We would therefore like to remind you once again of the existing ban on cell phones at our school. The cell phone should be switched off in your pocket when entering the school. An exception applies to the upper school. They are allowed to use the digital devices on the 3rd floor.

What can we teachers do?

We can continue to inform and educate the students. Smartphones are collected in the event of violations and are then available for collection from the school management.

How can the police help?

The police only intervene in the event of reports of a violation of personal rights. This includes taking photos/videos as well as distributing them or passing them on to third parties. As a preventative measure, the police have been organizing a workshop on cyberbullying in our 8th grade classes for years.

What can you do as parents?

You can report violations of personal rights if such a photo/video of your child exists. You can also report the following criminal offenses in this context:

- Production and distribution of depictions of violence (§131 StGB)
- Production and distribution of media with extremist content (e.g. Nazi symbols, right-wing extremist texts) (§§ 86, 86a, 130 StGB)
- Sexual abuse of children (§176 StGB)
- Distribution, acquisition, possession of child/youth/violent or animal pornography (§184 a/b/c StGB)

What can you as parents do preventively?

- Discuss the topics of data protection, copyright and personal rights with your child.
- Have apps shown and explained to you. Try them out yourself.
- Pay attention to the age restrictions of the apps.
- Use the safety and age settings on the smartphone or corresponding apps.
- Discuss with your children ways of reporting and blocking posts and content on social media channels.
- Make sure that the platform supported by the school is still IServ.



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You can find the following help online:

- Articles for parents on the topic of group chats: <https://www.swr.de/swraktuell/rheinland-pfalz/smartphone-nutzung-kinder-schule-was-sollten-eltern-beachten-gefahren-in-sozialen-medien-100.html>
- Advice for parents on the topic of children's group chats: <https://www.schau-hin.info/grundlagen/whatsapp-gruppenchats-fuer-kinder>
- Website with instructions on how to make apps childproof: <https://www.medien-kindersicher.de/startseite> (easy language can also be set directly above)
- Website with tips for using apps on cell phones and online challenges: <https://www.klicksafe.de/apps>
- Podcast on the topic of using smartphones: <https://www.ardaudiothek.de/episode/die-schule-brennt-der-bildungspodcast-mit-bob-blume/clemens-beisel-handysuechtige-kinder-was-schulen-und-eltern-tun-koennen/swr/13333005/>

Yours sincerely

B. Berger
Principal