

## Should cell phones be banned at school?

4A Kwan Yiu Ting (11)

There has been a continuous debate amongst teachers and pupils alike over the mobile phone's presence in schools, and there're a lot of people on both sides. So, who is right?

First, we should address the pros and cons of having a mobile phone in school. According to teachers and pupils, here are the main ideas behind either supporting or opposing mobile phones in school. Firstly, some say mobile phones are convenient for communication, but some argue that mobile phones distract pupils from their task. Secondly, some also say mobile phones are quite useful in terms of learning online, but some also argue that pupils, on average, got more fails in their tests and exams due to over usage of the mobile phone. Thirdly, some say that the mobile phone improves connection amongst the teachers, but some would argue that the teachers using mobile phones would become a bad example for pupils to use mobile phones.

In my opinion, mobile phones should be banned at school. The mobile phone was a great invention, but it is too great that it causes a burden for schools to manage it. Most schools in Hong Kong have either entirely banned, or have regulated, the use of mobile phones. The tactics used to regulate mobile phones in school vary in different schools, but the general idea is to confiscate the mobile phones from the pupils and only allow usage outside the campus for emergency use. However, not all plans are bulletproof. Firstly, this method requires immense trust between the teachers and pupils on handing in their phones. Some, distrustful of their teachers, or with self gain in mind, just don't do that. Instead, they use the phone secretly, in more neglected areas of the campus, and those few bad apples will tempt others to take a risk. The second problem is lust. Humans are naturally lustful of the things they want. Some have the desire to use mobile phones in school, and they may do anything just to use the mobile phone. The current method works against that desire, and it just doesn't seem like these people can ever willingly hand in their phone.