
Hand-Held Metal Scanners in School Policy

The McAuley Catholic High School



Date Approved February 2025

Headteacher James Tucker

Date to be reviewed February 2028

Chair of Governors Garry Thickett

Policy on the Use of Hand-Held Metal Scanners in School

Introduction: McAuley Catholic High School recognises the importance of maintaining a safe and secure learning environment for all students and staff members. In alignment with this commitment, the school has established guidelines regarding the use of hand-held metal scanners for searching students.

Policy Statement:

1. Purpose:

- Hand-held metal scanners may be used by authorised personnel for the purpose of detecting prohibited items that pose a threat to the safety and security of the school community.
- They may also be used prior to practice or public examinations to ensure that there are no mobile phones or other prohibited electric items (e.g. smart watches) which could lead to accusations of malpractice.

2. Authorised Personnel:

Only designated staff members trained in the proper use of hand-held metal scanners are permitted to conduct student searches.

- The Headteacher or Designated Safeguarding Lead will oversee the training process for staff members authorised to use metal scanners.

3. Scope of Searches:

- Student searches using hand-held metal scanners will be conducted in accordance with reasonable suspicion and established protocols.
- Searches will be conducted in a manner that respects the privacy and dignity of the students involved.

4. Notification and Consent:

- Prior to conducting metal scanner searches, students and parents/guardians will be informed of the school's policy regarding the use of metal scanners.

5. Prohibited Items:

- Vapes
- Lighters
- Bladed objects
- Mobile phones / Smart watches or other devices in practice and public examinations

6. **Conclusion:** By implementing and enforcing this policy, the school aims to create a safe and supportive environment where students can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally, free from the harmful effects of vaping.

7. **Policy Review:** This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure its effectiveness and relevance in addressing the evolving challenges associated with vaping among young people.

Date: 1 February 2024

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