

Should mobile phones be banned in school?

Max Mathys

May 26, 2013

Some teachers think that school and free time should be strictly separated. So this perspective also has to be true for mobile phones. The only use of the smartphone is entertainment, think some critical teachers. Therefore they should be banned from school, because they detract the students from paying attention in the class. Despite the fact that it is forbidden to use the phone in the class, most students do it anyway.

This opinion may be true for schools with younger students, e. g. primary schools. In my local primary school this is the case: although mobile phones are not allowed, students use it anyway. If a teacher catches them, he confiscates it. In my opinion, younger children have too little responsibility to handle with such device. However, older students (14 years and older) should be able to cope with this permanent distraction source.

What's more, mobile phones, or generally expressed, mobile devices can be very useful in school, and even boost the efficiency of the students and as well as the teachers! *The Guardian* released an article with the same title in November 2012, and it was reported, that some teachers discovered this fact. There is even an acronym for it: *BYOD*, Bring Your Own Device. One teacher argued that this is the future: students using their trusted devices rather than using one from school. In this case the teacher wants that students bring their own laptop or tablet to school.

In conclusion, I believe that smartphones, tablets, laptops belong certainly to the future school. Currently, the teachers are "*digital immigrants*", so they (or some) don't work with mobile devices yet.