

Mobile Marvels

People now need their mobiles like they need oxygen! But as technology is going mobile mad it is becoming increasingly difficult to keep up with the latest trends and coolest discoveries, so here's a quick list of the mobile madness. You can:

- * Stay in touch with your mates wherever, whenever by text or calls.
 - * Video your mates in their prime!
 - * Download digital music tracks to turn your mobile into an MP3 player.
 - * Send emails and check the latest sports results.
 - * Do WAP (Internet) browsing, and even create your own WAP site for mobiles that you and your mates can surf to for e.g. see www.winksite.com.
- The list really is endless! It's your mobile, your friends, your world...

Friend or Foe?

Pranks calls at 3am in the morning just aren't funny are they? Even if you do think it's your mates messing about, think again. Other than these calls being plain annoying, they could also be somebody you don't know. If you think you are being harassed by prank calls or unknown texts and you want them to stop, start by not responding to them, as this will only encourage them. You should also make sure you tell an adult immediately about the problem – they can help. If you still keep getting unwanted calls or messages from strangers, your parents should report this to the police. Remember you should never give your number or your friends' numbers out to people you do not know especially when using Messenger programs, chat rooms or email.

If you are being bullied by text or calls you could always speak to ChildLine. They are used to dealing with these situations and are waiting to help you. The number to call is: 0800 1111.

Cameras and Bluetooth

Camera phones with Bluetooth are cool! Bluetooth enables you to swap tunes, pictures and video clips with your friends for free! However there are always a few who are out to spoil things for others. Follow these simple steps to make sure you are not a victim of Bluetooth bullies:

- * Only turn Bluetooth on when it is necessary or use the 'hidden' visibility setting.
- * Don't give away any personal details in your phone name. Instead use an open name such as the name of a cartoon character / actor / super hero.
- * Use a phone pin code to protect your personal messages and phone data and prevent unauthorised blue tooth browsing. See <http://www.bluetooth.com/protect.asp> for more information.

Always get permission before taking friends' photos, or sending them on to others. Once sent out, they can be transferred to websites or get into the wrong hands. There are laws against sending inappropriate messages! If you get sent harassing or obscene messages, tell an adult immediately, and do not forward these.

Know Your Package!

Many people receive junk text messages; these can have hefty charges attached to them and can end up costing you a lot of money! If you receive any suspicious messages, and you don't want to receive them, it is very simple to have them stopped. Text back the word STOP to the company which is sending you the messages. Act as soon as possible to stop them spending your cash! If you need to make a complaint about these premium rate messages, contact ICSTIS by phone: Tel: 0800 500 212 or see <http://www.icstis.org.uk/>

There are some great call offers out there such as '300 texts for free per month on pay as you go'. These great offers could save you lots of dosh, so they are well worth hunting around for! You can also switch service providers by buying a new sim card, and putting it into your phone (as long as your phone is unlocked to accept any sim card).