



# MOBILEWALL

## 100% No cheating by mobile devices

### Good grades via smartphone? Impossible - now that MobileWall guarantees equal opportunity

Meckenheim, 10 April 2013

The good old cheat sheet has had its day. Today, smartphones are the much quicker and easier way to fudge on. So far, schools all over Germany have been helpless in the face of technological progress and instant access to the almost endless sources of information provided by the World Wide Web. But times begin to change and schools, too, start to *rearm* themselves. As one of the first NRW schools the Konrad-Adenauer-Gymnasium (KAG) in Meckenheim has now in good time to the *Abitur* exams adopted measures and has equipped all public toilet areas being released for use during the exams with MobileWall.

Using this new technology, all illegal mobile activity or mobile data transfer occurring in these areas is automatically detected within milliseconds, the supervising teaching staff is instantaneously informed.

„What matters to us most is that we want to implement equal opportunities for all students“, is how school principal Hans-Jürgen Jüngling explains the motivation, that took him to opt for the new technology. It cannot be allowed that students who can afford a 500 € expensive, Internet-capable mobile phone, have better chances of scoring good grades than their poorer schoolmates. On top of that, and most importantly, all honest students feel highly disadvantaged compared to the brazen cheaters 2.0.



Source of image: EXPRESS, 27.04.13.

With the introduction of MobileWall the school attempts to gain ground against the far too long neglected technological progress that is students' everyday reality for quite some time. And it starts to face the challenges related to it.

According to a 2012 study conducted by the Medienpädagogischer Forschungsverbund Südwest, 96% of the young people, aged between 12-19, own a mobile phone. The smartphone percentage included is estimated to be around 90%. A completely new dimension with regard to the possibilities of cheating and a huge temptation for the kids.

### Legal basis for equipping schools with mobile device detection technology

The decision whether or not to introduce this new technology is made by the school alone, explains the NRW Secretary of Education Sylvia Löhrmann in a recent interview about this topic. So far, no German state has created a legal basis regarding this issue, although there already do exist various corresponding legal drafts.

For schools like the Konrad-Adenauer-Gymnasium in Meckenheim as well as a small number of other courageous schools throughout Germany, who in the interests of legal opportunities implemented mobile device detection technology, the basis of their own authorisation is a decision made by the school conference. It provides a general ban on the use of mobile phones on the whole school compound. Students thus are committing a violation against school regulations if they merely hold a switched-on mobile phone in their hands in school.



Source of image: Focus, 15 Feb 13

German schools are currently adopting the pragmatic approach to explicitly emphasize the prohibition of the carrying and the use of mobile phones at the beginning of the exams. The students are requested to switch off their mobile devices and to hand them out to the supervising teaching staff. But not all of them comply with this order. The teachers remain powerless. This is why more and more schools are presently asking for strategies against cheating via smartphones.

Mobile device detection technology like MobileWall offers the perfect solution: It reliably detects and reports every sort of forbidden mobile activity. The attempt of deception is thus apparent. Afterwards it is up to the schools to decide how they are going to punish the violation. The German organisation of philologists (Deutscher Philologenverband) therefore supports the introduction of technology like MobileWall in schools - even if only as a very effective disincentive against cheating on exams.