



28 February 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

Mobile phone policy update

Your support for the mobile phone policy has been overwhelming and thank you to the parents and carers who contacted or met me to provide feedback. Overall, everyone has agreed with the principle but concerns raised have related to safety issues, access for young carers, communication with those students with severe health issues and the use of phones to support learning. Clearly, we have introduced the policy to improve the focus and behaviour of students but we need to be mindful of the importance of communication between you and your children.

1. I want to make it clear that students can bring phones to school so that parents/carers can communicate before and after school regarding meeting and pick up arrangements. However, students must not use them during the school day. As far as we are concerned, the school day starts when students enter the building in the morning and ends when they leave the grounds at 2.50 p.m.
2. If a student wishes to check their phone because they are expecting an important message then he or she should alert a member of the leadership team or their head of year to ask permission to do so. We are always around. Failure to do this will result in the application of the policy.
3. If a student needs to communicate with you in an emergency or to arrange a pick up at the end of day or activity, they should alert the school office who will contact you straight away. If the school office is closed (before 8 a.m. and after 4 p.m.) then they are free to use their phones.
4. If a phone is confiscated for inappropriate use; then under the policy it will be kept securely by the school for three days. **Students can collect it at the end of each day from Reception but must hand it back in the following morning.** You will be informed by Schoolcomms if your child's phone has been confiscated.
5. If a student refuses to hand over their phone for inappropriate use then we will contact you and expect your support. If, however, that is not possible then the student will be isolated until they hand it over or for a maximum of three days.
6. If a student has their phone confiscated three or more times within a half term then parents or carers will need to come in and collect it.
7. There has been legitimate use of phones in lessons to support learning. Considering the new policy, this will cease but we have ensured that there are sufficient computers in the school to provide for this.

All the students are aware of the new policy and its launch date of Monday, 05 March. Thank you for your support in advance.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Russell
Headteacher