

March 30th 2017

Dear Parent / Guardian

Name:

Form:

RE: NEW MOBILE PHONE POLICY

Following my letter to you dated March 6th I am writing to let you know that staff and governors have recently reviewed our policy and student practice and become progressively aware that outside of the classroom during breaks, between lessons and at lunchtime, students use of mobile phones has become increasingly inappropriate and unnecessary for a school / working environment. As you will hopefully agree and see for yourself at home, the changing nature of mobile technology has had a number of advantages, however, it is also apparent that young people are now becoming far too dependent on their phone and this we feel is having an adverse effect, not only on their education, but also their behaviour and the way they communicate with others.

The governors have therefore agreed that from Monday 24th April 2017 all mobile phones must be switched off and students will no longer be allowed to have their mobile phone out of their bag or inside pocket during the course of the school day (from the moment they come in to school until they leave at the end of the day). This will include phones being carried in top pockets and headphones protruding from the top of shirts or draped around necks etc.

As the use of mobile phones and other devices are now prohibited within the Academy, any student who is seen using their mobile phone or has their earphones visible, will have the item confiscated for the remainder of the day and it will be placed in the Academy's office safe. Parents will be asked to come in to the Academy to collect the items. Repeat offenders will be banned from bringing their mobile to the Academy.

We have not taken this decision lightly and it is based on feedback from several parents, staff and indeed students. I sincerely hope that you will discuss these changes with your son/daughter and explain the importance of this change and the need to abide by this new code of conduct.

In an emergency should your child need to contact you during the day this will be possible via the Academy's reception where a member of staff will support them with the issue and contact home on their behalf.

Responsibility for mobile phones:

The Academy does not accept any responsibility whatsoever for theft, loss or damage to mobile phones. It is the responsibility of parents and students to ensure mobile phones are properly insured.

Should you have any comments to make please do let me have them as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Keith Whittlestone
Principal