



9 October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Mobile Phones

We currently have a mobile phone policy that allows pupils to access their mobile phones outside of lesson times during their free time. From our observations, we are particularly concerned with the reliance that our Year 7 pupils have to their mobile phones, especially during lesson line up and changeover.

We understand that mobile phones are a part of modern society and the majority of students will now own a mobile phone and that for safety reasons students will carry a mobile phone in order to contact parents/carers before and after school. However, we do feel that their continual use in school is having an impact on your son's ability to focus on his learning. This view is one shared by educational research presented by the Education Endowment Foundations report called 'Improving Behaviour in Schools'.

We will therefore be making a temporary change to our rules regarding mobile phone use in Year 7 for the last week of term.

For this week we will expect mobile phones to be switched off before entering the school site and to remain in bags/jackets for the whole school day. Following a reminder, any student seen using their mobile phone during school hours will have their phone stored in reception for collection at the end of the school day.

We understand the occasional need for parents to communicate with their children. If this need arises during the school day please contact our reception staff on (01732) 500600 who will be able to pass on any important notices. We thank you in advance for your support in enforcing this approach for the last week of term. We will be evaluating how this change to mobile phone usage develops and will keep you informed of any further changes or extension to this policy before the start of next term.

Yours sincerely

Mr Upton
Head of Year 7

Mr St John
Head of School