



20 July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

## **Mobile Policy Change from 1 September 2021**

We wrote recently explaining that we were reviewing mobile phone use as part of our Behaviour for Learning Policy and inviting parents to let us know their views. Thank you to all those that have responded, we are pleased that so many of you share the view that whilst mobile phones are part of the modern world we need to support young people to use them appropriately and that part of doing that is to limit their use. In line with many schools locally and nationally please find below revised mobile phone regulations that come into effect on the first day of our new academic year.

### **From 1 September 2021:**

- Students are allowed a mobile phone but it must be turned off as soon as they arrive at school and be placed in their bags.
- Mobile phones are to stay switched off in school bags until students leave the school site at the end of the day.
- If a student is seen with a mobile phone out they will be asked to turn it off and put it away.
- If a student continues to be seen with their mobile phone they will be asked to hand it over to a member of staff for the remainder of the day. These can be collected before they go home.
- Should you have an urgent message for your son please call the school between 8am – 4pm and we will ensure the message is passed on.
- We will continue to support/facilitate students to urgently contact their parents should they need to do so during school hours.

Our purpose in making these changes is to minimise the time students spend on social media and phone games whilst at school. This year staff have too often been diverted away from being educators to deal with issues that have arisen through the misuse of social media.

In social times we want students to develop their face to face social skills and it has been a pleasure to see the benefits of this with our current Year 7 students where this policy has been in place as a trial this academic year.

We will of course be communicating these policy changes to the students and thank you in advance for reinforcing our messages at home.

Yours sincerely

Seb St John  
Head of School