

8th April 2022

Re: Mobile Phone Consultation

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to follow-up the proposed changes to our mobile phone policy. I wrote to you last week to open our consultation with parents regarding our mobile phone policy and would like to update you with the outcome.

The results of the parental survey were interesting. 90% of parents who responded to the survey felt that mobile phones did not have a place in the classroom. However, parents were roughly split on whether students should be allowed to use phones during social times. This was because some parents felt reassured that they were able to contact their child during break and lunch time.

Following the consultation, as a school we will move to the proposed changes from Monday 25th April 2022. Whilst we understand that some parents do wish for children to have a phone during social time, our experience in school is that this is when we see inappropriate mobile phone use take place. However, we do understand that some parents are reassured by communication with their children and we will ensure students have the opportunity, should they need it, to get in touch with parents via the office phone. Please see a reminder of the current policy and what are now the final changes to the policy.

Current policy

Our current policy is to allow students to have their mobile devices and headphones on them in school and to use them before school and during social times. The devices are not allowed to be used in classes and if they are misused, students receive negative behaviour points. Mobile devices are allowed on educational visits unless the trip organiser states differently.


Final changes

Mobile devices, including headphones, must not be **seen** or **heard** between 8am and 3.10pm. This will mean that students are not to use any mobile devices from the moment they walk through the school gates and until they leave the school site at the end of the day. We appreciate that students and parents may feel more assured knowing that their child has a mobile phone on them whilst they are making their way to and from school. Mobile phones will still be permitted on site but must be kept in the bottom of a student's school bag. The school canteen will become a mobile device free zone.

Mobile phones will still be permitted on school trips. It will be down to the trip lead to decide how and when phones can be used on the trip.

If a student uses any mobile device on the school site it will be confiscated. Students will be expected to hand over their device at the first time of asking and the device will be clearly labelled and securely stored in the school office. The student will be able to collect the device at the end of the school day. If a student has had their device confiscated for a second time, the device will be stored and a parent/carer will need to come to school to collect the device. If a student refuses to hand over their device to a member of staff they will receive an internal exclusion. If there are further instances of defiance then there will be a further consequence.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Thomas". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Mr D Thomas
Deputy Head of Academy