



19th July 2023

Dear Family

Re: Mobile Phone Policy Update

We are writing to inform you of an important change in our school's policy regarding the use of mobile phones during school hours. From September 2023, we will be implementing a new procedure requiring all learners to hand in their mobile phones at the beginning of each day, which will be locked away securely for the day. We believe that this adjustment will greatly benefit our learners in terms of learning, exam outcomes, and safeguarding.

You may have recently heard that both Finland and the Netherlands have moved to a total ban of phones in the classroom. France and the UK are looking to create a legal ban too. The decision to introduce this policy has been carefully considered by the Senior Leadership Team, and we would like to share our rationale with you.

First and foremost, one of our key objectives is to create a conducive learning environment where learners can fully engage with their studies and maximise their academic potential. Mobile phones have proven to be a significant distraction in classrooms, often diverting learners' attention away from important lessons, discussions, and activities. By removing phones from the equation, we can minimise interruptions and create a focused atmosphere where learners can concentrate on their learning without unnecessary disruptions or the temptation to use their phone.

Moreover, research has consistently shown a negative correlation between mobile phone usage in schools and academic performance. Learners who spend excessive time on their phones often struggle with time management, suffer from decreased productivity, and experience difficulties in retaining information. By implementing this policy, we aim to optimise their learning experience, enhance their concentration, and ultimately improve their overall academic achievement and exam outcomes.

Safeguarding our learners' well-being is of paramount importance to us. The use of mobile phones brings with it certain risks, including cyberbullying, online harassment, and the potential exposure to inappropriate or harmful content. We are deeply committed to ensuring the safety and welfare of every learner within our school community. By collecting and securely storing the phones during the day, we can help protect our learners from potential digital threats and provide a safer environment for their social and emotional development.

It is important to note that we understand the potential concerns associated with learners not having immediate access to their phones in case of emergencies. Rest assured, we have robust procedures in place to handle emergency situations promptly and effectively. Our staff members can address any urgent matters that may arise.

We kindly request your support and cooperation by reinforcing this policy at home as well. Encourage your child to fully embrace the opportunities presented by this adjustment and remind them of the importance of focusing on their education and maintaining a healthy balance between online and offline activities. We believe that this change will have a positive impact on learning, exam outcomes, and overall well-being. We appreciate your understanding and partnership in creating the best possible educational environment for our learners.

Headteacher: James Saunders MBA

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Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this new policy, please do not hesitate to contact the school. We value your feedback and are here to address any queries you may have.

Thank you for your continued support and trust in our school. Together, we can ensure our learners' success and provide them with the best educational experience possible.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Caygill', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Scott Caygill
Deputy Headteacher