



Dear Parents/Carers,

### The Use of Mobile Devices on Academy Grounds

Thank you for your support this year in what has been a remarkable time for everyone. I know that our Year 7 pastoral team has worked tirelessly to help support every student and I hope that your child has grown in confidence and is enjoying learning, albeit in a very different set of circumstances!

The introduction of Year Group 'bubbles', the long lockdown, and the separation from older students, has meant some students in Year 7 have been slow to learn the habits and conduct that we expect. One aspect is their use of mobile phones.

We have a zero tolerance policy in regards to students using their mobile phones. Unfortunately, we are finding that not all students are following this policy and we have had a number of incidents whereby students have been found to be using them during Academy hours. This is a serious violation of our policy, which can also cause safeguarding concerns as well as bringing the Academy's reputation into disrepute. Whilst we have dealt severely with the aforementioned incidents, this is a growing concern, and as such, we wish to address this issue in order to maintain a safe Academy site.

Following the return from the Easter holiday, any Year 7 students who bring a mobile phone to the Academy must hand it in during morning Tutor Time. These will be stored securely and returned to the students at the end of the day. It is recommended that wherever possible students leave their mobile phone at home; the Academy is not responsible for them if they're brought in.

Whilst we recognise the desire for students to have their phone as they travel to and from the Academy, there is no reason for students to have their mobile phones during the Academy day as they are not permitted to be used. Any student who is found to have a mobile phone in their possession following the implementation of this change will have the device confiscated in line with Academy policy, and will be sanctioned accordingly. In the event of an emergency, the Academy will contact you directly.

We appreciate your support in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink.

Mr Kulyna  
**Head of Year 7**

A handwritten signature in black ink.

Mr Price  
**Assistant Vice Principal  
& Director of Key Stage 3**