

**RE - Mobile Phones**20<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Dear parent / carer,

It has come to our attention that, regrettably, some pupils have been using mobile phones when they are prohibited from doing so.

Unfortunately, in spite of the current procedure, we have found an increase of pupils using their mobile phones when they are not permitted to do so.

Furthermore, the school has become increasingly concerned with the safeguarding and data protection implications that surround pupils using their mobile phones during the school day.

As a school, we take the most stringent measures to ensure the privacy of our staff and pupils is protected, and we have become increasingly concerned with the number of pupils using their phone to post personal information on their social media sites about their peers, staff and themselves. This information is difficult to keep private once it is on the internet, and it is difficult to establish whether consent has been obtained when the information has been uploaded online by a pupil about others.

Due to the reasons outlined above and after consultation with Parent/Carers, Student Council and Staff discussions we have made the decision to **ban the use of mobile phones** on the premises. From the week commencing Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January the procedure for mobile phones will be:

“All phones brought onto the premises must be handed in at tutor time and then returned to pupils at the end of the school day.”

If you need to contact your child throughout the school day, please feel free to call the school office on **0117 3708030**– your message will be passed on to your child as soon as we receive the call.

As a school, we believe that these changes to procedure will greatly benefit our pupils. Without the constant distraction of their mobile phones, pupils can focus more on their lessons and, as a result, their progress can improve. By extension to this, pupils will become less distracted by other people who choose to break the rules in class by going on their phone, thus improving the classroom environment for all pupils. This is a decision that has been greatly supported by the school staff and I hope you share the same enthusiasm for this policy change as we do.

I ask that, to ensure a smooth transition between the procedures, you take time to discuss this change with your child and ensure they understand the consequences of breaking the new school rules. If, however, you have any questions about the new change in procedure, please contact **0117 3708030**, or you can address your concerns to **School@knowledge.learnmat.uk**

Thank you once again for your cooperation.

Yours faithfully,



*Darren Ewings*  
Head Teacher

