



8th February 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

Mobile phone policy- A reminder for all parents (the following is a reinforcement of an existing policy)

As a senior leadership team we reviewed our policy on Mobile Phones in 2016. Being a rural school we acknowledge the value of students bringing a mobile phone to contact parents if necessary, but our policy on phones has been that mobile phones should be switched off in school or on silent. Given recent developments in safeguarding concerns, for example with “sexting” and phones becoming a greater distraction in school, the taking and posting of pictures without permission and a source of bullying, we have decided that the approach to mobile phones must be more structured.

We have adopted the mantra of “**see it, hear it, lose it**”. This will mean the following:

- 1) Students will be allowed to bring phones in to school at their own risk
- 2) Students will not be allowed a mobile phone out anywhere in school including before school, during lunchtimes, breaktimes and after school whilst on school site.
- 3) Phones must not be seen in lesson unless the teacher has given specific permission for this, because a feature on the phone will enhance the learning.
- 4) If a phone is seen or heard by a member of staff, it will be confiscated and returned at the end of the school day on the first occasion. This will be recorded on our Progresso system. If this happens a second time, the phone will be available for collection by parents only on the following school day.

We believe this is a fair compromise whereby we do not ban phones in their entirety; we continue to allow appropriate and helpful use of phones for educational purposes, however phone use in and around school is going to be appropriately controlled. However, another local school has banned mobile phone use completely and this is something we would look at if the above policy does not deliver its desired outcomes.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S King
Senior Leadership Team