



An Active Learning Trust School

Our ref: JW/SK
24 July 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to inform you of a change in our procedures regarding mobile phone usage at the Academy.

Whilst I appreciate that mobile phones are used by the vast majority of the population there is compelling evidence that restricting the usage of these devices in school does have a positive effect on learning and outcomes.

Educational research suggests up to a 4-6% increase in GCSE outcomes in schools that do not allow mobile phone usage during the school day.

The Education Secretary, Damian Hinds, backs the decision to ban mobile phones from schools and the Head of Ofsted, Amanda Spielman, agrees and supports schools that choose to ban mobile phone usage in schools.

The Department of Education reports that 95% of schools now control the use of phones in some way.

Whilst I appreciate that some schools wish to impose a complete ban on mobile phones I recognise that they are part of modern day living and therefore rather than a blanket ban, we intend to restrict the usage of mobile phones.

From September, mobile phones can only be used outside the school buildings before school, after school, and during break and lunchtimes. They can never be used inside the buildings unless directed by a member of staff.

Mobile phones cannot be visible or used during the transition between lessons. They should be switched off and out of sight when students are in the building.

This approach should avoid the need to impose sanctions on students as they will be clear about our expectations.

Any student who does not adhere to the new procedures will have their phone confiscated and stored securely until it is collected at the end of the Academy day.

I thank you in advance for supporting this change of procedure.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Wing", written in a cursive style.

Mr J Wing
Executive Principal