



JOSEPH PAXTON CAMPUS

Wirral Hospitals' School
"Working together to make everything better"
An Ofsted "Outstanding" School

Headteacher: Mr P Arrowsmith

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26/06/2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

MOBILE PHONES IN SCHOOL

In line with the updated DfE guidelines on the use of mobile phones in schools, we have updated our policy and will be taking an entirely different approach from September 2024 onwards.

The reason for making these changes is not just so that we are compliant with DfE guidelines, but also as a response to recent, and developing, research and information that shows a clear link between the use of mobile phones amongst teenagers and poor mental health, wellbeing and even physical development of the growing brain.

For most students, the best approach is simply to not bring a phone into school and we fully support any parent/carer who makes this decision for their child. However, we accept that many students will still choose to do so. The policy in relation to this is available on our website, but please note the following strict rules from this policy, which will apply from September onwards:

- Mobile phones must not be used at all, or for any reason, during the school day.
- Mobile phones must be switched off and out of sight at all times.
- If any parent needs to contact their child, they must call the school office, calls and messages must not be made directly to students. The same applies to students who wish to contact parents, they must go to their house base to make the call.
- If a mobile phone is seen or heard at any point during the school day, it will be immediately confiscated, kept in the safe, and not returned until the end of the day. The same rule applies on all school trips and visits.
- For repeat offences, the phone will not be returned to the student. Instead, parents/carers will need to come to school to collect it.
- Where we feel there are persistent concerns, individual students will be required to hand their mobile phone in at the start of each day.
- Ultimately, should concerns persist despite these measures, the student's placement will be reviewed and may be terminated.

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Whilst we accept that mobile phone use is a normal part of modern society, our only priority is to safeguard our children and ensure that they are able to be educated in an environment that is safe, free from distractions, and not contributing to any potential long-term negative impacts. Therefore, I look forward to your continued support on this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Phill Arrowsmith
Headteacher

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