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20 February 2024

Dear parents and carers,

You may have seen in the news today that the Department for Education have issued new guidance to schools about mobile phones.

You can view the government's announcement about this here:

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-crackdown-on-mobile-phones-in-schools#:~:text=New%20mobile%20phones%20in%20schools,phone%20use%20with%20great%20results.

I thought it would therefore be useful to reiterate our policy regarding mobile phones:

Pupils must not bring mobile phones or other electronic devices into school. However, we accept that many parents/cares wish their child to have a mobile phone with them for the journey to or from school.

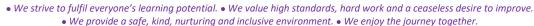
Therefore, on entering the Academy, any mobile phones should be switched off and placed safely in their bag.

An 'out of sight, out of mind' principle needs to be followed. Pupils must only take their mobile phones out of their bags at the end of the day once they exit through the courtyard gates (and must still not take photographs or videos on or near the site).

If a mobile phone is seen or heard for any reason during the school day, then it will be confiscated. The member of staff confiscating the phone will hand it into reception and inform the pupil that they can collect if at the end of the day. Each confiscation will be logged by the member of staff removing it, this will be recorded as a misconduct point. The misconduct behaviour points process will be put in place and further sanctions will apply for repeated offences.

If a pupil has their phone confiscated three or more times during a half term, it will only be returned to a parent or carer.

A pupil who refuses to hand their mobile phone over to a member of staff may be given a fixed term suspension and, in future weeks, will be asked to hand their mobile to their pastoral team at the beginning of the day for a notified period.















As with all prohibited items, the Principal has the right to instruct a search of a pupil's' bag and coat, if there are reasonable grounds to suspect a pupil has a phone but is refusing to hand it over.

If there is an emergency and a pupil feels that they need to contact their parent/carer, they must speak to their pastoral team, who may give permission to use the mobile phone in a private area.

These rules do not apply to sixth form students. However, they are only permitted to use their mobiles in the post 16 area. If found using their phones anywhere else, they will be reminded of the expectation and the Head of Sixth Form will be informed.

As you will see, this is already in line with the latest guidance, and, as always, I really appreciate you support in helping us maintain high standards at Nottingham Girls' Academy.

Yours faithfully,

Mr D Tungate Executive Principal











