



BEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL
A Specialist Business and Enterprise College
with Applied Learning
Headteacher: Mrs H J Phillips
Mobile phones and devices

Dear Parent/Guardian

As you know, our stance on mobile phones and devices is that they must not be used or seen for non-learning purposes whilst your child is on the school site.

Previous correspondence has outlined our rationale for this and our position has not changed. Addiction to 'smart phones' is obviously unhealthy and evidence shows that a break from screen time during the school day benefits students. You will also recognise that our aim is to safeguard your child and staff in the school from unwanted photographs, recording and videoing without permission and unkind or inappropriate comments made on social media.

Regrettably, I am having to write to you again as the use of mobile phones in school is becoming more prevalent and when challenged about this many of our students are being confrontational and defiant. Consequently, what should be a simple issue to resolve, and in fact should not happen in the first place, is escalating quickly and impacting negatively on teaching and learning. Staff are having to waste time dealing with this misbehaviour and, clearly, this is in no one's best interest.

If your child needs to make a call home they can do this quite easily by going to Student Services and making the call from there. Likewise, should you need to contact your child urgently this can be done by phoning school in the normal way.

As a reminder, and for clarity;

1. Mobile phones should be 'off and away' at all times. Any phone seen, heard or its use suspected (this includes listening to music) will be confiscated and this includes phones on display in pockets.
2. Phones that are confiscated will be returned to students at the end of the day in the first instance, although should there be a second occurrence a call will be made home with the requirement for a parent / guardian to collect the phone on their child's behalf.
3. For repeat offences, a mobile phone contract will be initiated. This involves your child handing their phone in at the start of each school day and collecting it at the end of each school day.
4. The restriction is in place at all times while students are in the grounds of the school, this includes when students arrive and leave at the end of the day. Phones should be away before students enter the school grounds and not accessed until they have left the site.
5. Should students wish to contact parents at the end of the school day with any concerns or for collection following school based activities they are asked to go to Student Services to do this.

We would appreciate your assistance in ensuring that your child does not use their mobile phone at all whilst on school site. You can further help this by waiting until they are on their way home before calling or messaging them. We will remind students of our policy at school and take a strong line whenever the policy is breached.

Thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully

Mrs H J Phillips

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