



CHRISTOPHER WHITEHEAD LANGUAGE COLLEGE & SIXTH FORM

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Our ref: NM/AM
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Mobile Phone Use

Dear Parent/Carer

Please can I enlist your support with regards the use of mobile phones. The school rule is that phones should be switched off and not seen anywhere on the site. Phones should not be out at all including before or after school. If parents want to contact students it needs to be done via reception; students do not need to upset their parents with irate texts because they have been 'told off'. Therefore, the mobile phone needs to be switched off, in the blazer or in the bottom of the bag.

90% of school issues we deal with are phone related and they are becoming a huge distraction in lessons with constantly buzzing text alerts, latest opportunities or 'key teenage catch-ups'.

Research continues to be undertaken with regards the health risks of overuse of mobile phones and the radiation they emit, especially amongst the young whose body and nervous system are still developing. France has banned advertising of mobile phones aimed at under 12s and some countries are looking at printing health warnings on phones as we do on cigarette packets. The strong advice is to power down all electrical devices two hours prior to sleep to avoid being that sleep deprived teenager we so often see – unable to learn as they fire off texts and sleep with their 'must have' smart phone.

Therefore Directors of Studies will, for regular offenders, keep mobile phones during the day to avoid distraction and break this unhealthy habit. For those who have phones out in school, staff have been instructed to take the phone for the day.

Thank you in anticipation of your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. S. Morris'.

Neil S Morris
Headteacher