



Archbishop Ilesley Catholic School

'Justus et Tenax Propositi'

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Head teacher: Miss Helen Burrows



24th June 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you regarding the use of mobile phones in school.

At Archbishop Ilesley Catholic School we have always had a very sensible and realistic approach to mobile phones. We accept that the vast majority of students have a mobile phone and bring them to school. The policy has always been that students should not use their mobile phones during school hours and we have always been very tolerant with our young people when it comes to mobile phones.

However, not all students choose to understand what our school policy is and some students are choosing to use their phones inappropriately during the school day. This cannot continue. My staff are having to spend increasing amounts of time dealing with issues caused through students using mobile phones inappropriately during and outside of the school day. This is a waste of time; my staff are here to educate your children and they need to spend time doing this rather than policing mobile phones and social media.

From today the school's policy on mobile phones will be strictly enforced. All mobile phones must be switched off between 8.40 and 3.10. They must not be used for any purpose and any student in breach of our policy will have their phone confiscated immediately. It will be returned at the end of the school day. If your child refuses to be compliant with our policy you will be contacted and there will be a sanction put in place. Please note that I am reviewing our current policy and there are likely to be changes for September 2019.

If your child films or photographs members of staff or other students they are likely to be issued with a fixed-term exclusion.

I would ask all parents and carers for your support in this by not contacting your child on their mobile telephone during the school day. If you need to get an urgent message to your child or there is an emergency please telephone the school and not your child. Your child has been told that if they need to contact you, they must speak to an adult in school who will facilitate this. Could I also remind you that it is your responsibility as parents/carers to monitor your child's phone and use of social media outside of school hours. I know that many of you already do this and your support is very much appreciated.

I do believe that students are far better off when they are focused on their lessons and learning life skills in communication. As much as I would like to ban mobile phones from the premises entirely, I do recognise that in today's world being able to contact your children on their way to and from school provides you with peace of mind. I know that you will support me in not permitting your child to use their phone during school hours and I am grateful for this.

God Bless

Miss Helen Burrows
Headteacher

