

1st February 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

I write to remind you of our school policy regarding the use of mobile phones on our school site and issues connected with the same. I would also like to offer advice and support which I believe will be helpful to you as a parent or carer who pay the contract/bill on the phone your daughter uses.

The greater majority of our pupils use their mobile phones sensibly and have been given secure guidance by their parents to ensure they use their phones safely. I am sure you will be aware of the issues that can and do arise when mobiles are used inappropriately. We give the facility for pupils to hand their phones in when they arrive at school before registration and to collect them at 3.10pm to take account of parents wishing their daughters to have their phones whilst journeying to and from school. There is no reason for pupils to have their phones during the school day, pastoral support staff will facilitate any contact they need to have with parents or carers throughout the day via our school land lines. If parents do not support this policy it gives our pupils the wrong message as to where their responsibilities lie and compromises our work to educate pupils to keep themselves and others safe.

If pupils in year 7-11 are found in possession of a phone in lessons or in and around school they will be taken from them and returned to parents at the end of the next school day. I know pupils being separated from their phones even for 24 hours can be problematic, however, the pupils know the rules and if they adhere to them there will not be an issue.

Sixth Form pupils may have a mobile phone in school but may not use it around school or in lessons. The use of their phones must be limited to agreed areas in the sixth form and our Acceptable Use Policy must be followed. Phones will be confiscated and only returned to parents if pupils fail to follow these rules.

We will deal firmly and appropriately with any pupil who sends or passes on malicious messages or content or brings offensive material into school via any means.

As a school our first priority is to keep our pupils safe, as Head Teacher I am unbending in this regard. I know you will understand and support my stand with regard to the use of mobile phones, I am saddened to say that the majority of incidents where pupils have put themselves or others at risk or acts of unkindness involve the inappropriate use of mobile phones. Our school is the good school it is because of our pupils, our staff and our parents. You will have chosen to send your daughter to Broughton Hall Catholic High School because of the high standards we have and we have to work together to ensure this remains the case.

Please read the attached information and discuss it with you daughter. Could I also ask you to check our uniform policy and again help us to maintain the excellent standards we are so proud of. Thank you for your continued support. Please contact school if you wish to discuss any matter further.

Yours sincerely

S A Clarke
Head Teacher