

West Derby School

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Headteacher: Mrs S Graham



17 October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

As you are aware, we have a strict no phone policy at West Derby School. This is made clear to all parents and students when they choose to attend West Derby. Of late, we have been very disappointed in the number of students and parents who are making contact throughout the day via their mobile phones. This is particularly prevalent when a student feels a little unwell, leading to parents in many cases leaving work only to arrive at school to discover that their son would be able to make it to the end of the school day.

Going forward, we are going to enforce the no phone policy more stringently. This also links in with the recent statement by the Secretary of State for Education, The Rt Hon Gillian Keegan, MP, whereby she announced the DfE's plans to ban mobile phone use in all schools. You can read the press release here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mobile-phone-use-to-be-banned-in-schools-in-england>

Should your son use his phone during the school day to either text or call for any purpose, including illness, we will need to take the following actions:

1. Phone will be confiscated.
2. The office staff will contact home and notify parents/carers of the reason for confiscation. It is important to note that the office staff will only have the facts passed to them by the pastoral staff so please be understanding of their position.
3. The phone will be securely stored in the school safe overnight.
4. It can be collected by an adult member of the family from 3.15pm onwards the following day.
5. There cannot be negotiation on when the phone is confiscated.
6. Failure to hand in the phone will lead to Isolation plus a senior detention until 4.15pm on the same day of refusal. Again, this is not open to negotiation.

We acknowledge that parents can find it difficult when their son does not have their phone when travelling to and from school. However, we would appreciate if parents can make it very clear to students that the choice to use the phone on school premises has an impact on parents as much as students. The consequence of not having the phone for this period of time is designed to show students that they must use them sensibly.

Unfortunately, we cannot make exceptions for students' and parents' circumstances.

So, we urge you to work with us:

1. Please do not contact your son via his mobile phone during the school day.
2. Your son should not use his phone to contact you.

3. If there is an emergency you should contact the school office and we will endeavour to return your call.
4. Should your son need to contact you, he must speak to his PPL or a member of the senior management team during break or dinner and the school will contact you if required.

We all understand the importance of a mobile phone free zone for our teenagers. We would greatly appreciate your support.

Yours faithfully



Mrs S Graham
Headteacher