



21 March 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you that the school has taken the decision to ban mobile phones for Year 6 pupils for the rest of this term (until after Easter). This decision has not been made lightly; it has been reported to us that there has been continued inappropriate use of electronic devices and social media over the past few days which is causing us concern.

While we would normally ban individuals, it has been reported as a year wide issue and has resulted in us taking this action. We are concerned about the following behaviours:

- Images and videos being taken of people without permission
- Use of social media (Instagram and WhatsApp) when they are under the minimum age under the usage policy (13-years-old)
- Swearing and abusive messages being sent in group chats or to individuals.

We strongly recommend parents and carers to monitor the usage of any electronic devices used by the pupils, as continued use of equipment in this way can have a detrimental impact on their social and emotional well-being. Our e-safety lessons reinforce the fact that messages and images never really disappear and are stored on servers which can be accessed in the future.

If pupils do bring a phone into school, it will be confiscated by staff and parents will be asked to collect the phone from the school office.

We take the safety and social responsibility of our pupils seriously, and we hope you will support us on this decision and encourage the appropriate use of these devices outside of school hours.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Cutler  
Head of School