



Student Mobile Phones Proposal – May 2022

Mobile phones are a key part of our lives and society in general, however it has also been shown that excessive use has a negative effect on mental health, especially for teenagers. We are particularly concerned by the negative effect continued exposure to social media can have on a young person's mental health.

With the above in mind we are proposing that NSfG becomes a mobile phone free zone for students. We will take this action to create a safe space where students can concentrate on their studies and develop positive relationships with their peers. We believe that by creating a space for students to concentrate on developing positive and healthy relationships without the distractions of a phone this will have a positive effect on their overall wellbeing, as well as an impact of academic progress.

We recognise that it is sensible for students to have mobile phones when travelling to and from school, therefore students will be able bring phones to school, however they must be turned off and in bags/out of sight whilst on the school site. Students with smart watches must keep these in 'school mode' whilst on the school site.

Any student who uses their mobile phone without prior permission from a member of staff will have it confiscated until the end of the day. If parents need to contact their child this must be via the ESL. If there are any issues in school, we will contact you.

To support students, we will be working with focus groups to develop additional lunchtime activities, including sports, board games and other activities. A budget has been set aside for students to purchase items such as outside table tennis tables.

Sixth Form students will continue to be able to use mobile phones in recognition of their transition into workplace/further education practices.