



# CHRIST THE KING

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE

WITH THE POWER TO ACT

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Headteacher: Mrs E Wheeler BSc (Hons)

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to inform you about a change in our expectations regarding the use of mobile phones in school. Christ the King Catholic High School and Sixth Form Centre accepts that mobile phones (and other portable devices) are now part of young people's culture and way of life and can have considerable value, particularly in relation to individuals' safety. Whilst having clear benefits, they can also present a considerable distraction to pupils' learning and engagement. We understand that pupils may wish to carry a mobile phone in order to contact their parents in an emergency whilst travelling to and from school. Mobile phones can, however, lead to safeguarding and wellbeing concerns such as digital addiction, online bullying, disruption to lessons and inappropriate internet usage.

Whilst we acknowledge the importance of mobile phones, we have come to the conclusion that they can have a significant negative effect and we have a duty to minimise this within school and that we promote a healthy, balanced approach to mobile technology with our pupils. For these reasons, pupils' use of mobile phones is not permitted during school hours. Mobile phones are expected to be turned off at the school gate and should not be seen or heard whilst pupils are on school property. At the end of the school day, pupils are only allowed to use their phone once they have exited the site. Pupils must be beyond the school gates before their mobile phone should be in view.

This is for pupils in Year groups 7-11 as Sixth Form students are allowed to use mobile phones in the specific designated areas but not in lessons or on corridors.

There are no justifiable reasons why pupils should have their phone out at any point during the school day. If they are caught with their phone out during the school day, whether actively using it or not, their phone will be confiscated and we will require parents/carers to come to school to collect it at their earliest convenience. If there is an emergency that requires communication with home, pupils must speak to a member of staff (teaching or support) who will deal with the matter. Likewise, if parents need to contact their child they must do so through the school office.

Please note, this will take effect from Tuesday 1 October. Thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

Yours faithfully

Mrs E Wheeler  
HEADTEACHER

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