



Winifred Holtby Academy

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6<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Dear Parent / Carer

In line with many other schools locally and nationally, our Trust and Local Governing Board have made the decision to move to a complete site ban on mobile phones and smart watches from 1st September 2023. This ban on mobile phones and smart watches will be included in our new behaviour policy from September 2023.

This means that if your child carries a mobile phone or smart watch to the academy, they will be expected to switch them off and keep them in their school bag for the duration of the school day. Once on our academy site, pupils will not be allowed to use their mobile phone or smart watch under any circumstances. This includes both indoor and outdoor areas.

If our staff see or hear a mobile phone or smart watch on the academy site, it will be confiscated until the end of the day and parents / carers will be required to collect them from the academy reception, after 3.15pm. Confiscated mobile phones and smart watches will not be returned directly to pupils. A one hour after school detention will be issued to any pupil who fails to keep their mobile phone or smart watch switched off in their school bag.

If you wish to contact your child urgently during the school day, you should telephone or email the academy reception, or their Year Team and we will ensure the message is passed to them. Equally, if your child needs to contact you urgently, we will allow them to use an academy telephone to do so.

This information will be shared with all pupils before we break up for the summer holidays so that they are clear of the new rules in relation to mobile phones and smart watches before they return in September.

Yours Faithfully

Mr M Brown

Headteacher