4th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Important Update: Mobile Phone Policy**

As you are aware, we are a *no phone school*. We strongly believe that students should be focused on their learning, free from the distractions and risks that come with mobile phone use during the school day.

From Monday 8th September when all students return, our policy regarding mobile phones will be changing slightly.

* If your child is seen using their phone in school, their phone will be **immediately confiscated**.
* The phone will **only be returned to a parent/carer**, who must collect it from school during office hours. It will **not** be returned directly to your child under any circumstances.
* If a student refuses to hand over their phone, parents/carers will be contacted and asked to come into school to take the phone from them. Until this happens, your child will remain in our Emmaus Room (internal exclusion).
* If the phone is not handed in by the end of the day, your child will be expected to hand it in the following morning. Failure to do so will result in them remaining in Emmaus again until the phone is given to staff.
* Persistent refusal to comply with this policy will result in further sanctions, which may include parents/carers being required to attend school, a possible suspension, and/or being referred to the Governing Body.

We appreciate your support in ensuring this policy is successful. Our approach is not about punishment, but about **protecting the wellbeing, safety, and learning of every student**.

Research shows that mobile phones in schools can negatively impact concentration, increase instances of bullying, and contribute to mental health challenges such as anxiety and low self-esteem.

The Department for Education (DfE) states:

* *“Banning mobile phones improves behaviour and reduces bullying.”*
* *“We want schools to be safe, calm and supportive environments where children can learn without distraction.”*

By removing phones from the school day, we can reduce distractions, limit opportunities for online bullying, and protect students from exposure to harmful online content during school hours. This creates a healthier learning environment where young people can focus on their education and build positive face-to-face relationships.

Thank you for your understanding and partnership in supporting this important policy. Working together, we can ensure that our school remains a safe, supportive and positive place for all our students.

Yours sincerely,

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Designated Safeguarding Lead

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