



Shirebrook Academy

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7th May 2024

Shirebrook Academy – Mobile Phone Policy

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that mobile phones are not permitted to be used during the academy day by students.

As stated in our Behaviour and Rewards Policy, which can be found on the Academy website:

Mobile phones are prohibited from use at Shirebrook Academy. Students should not have their phone out in lessons, around the Academy building or outside on the Academy site.

Students caught using their phones will have their phone confiscated and the student will be asked to collect it from the office at the end of the day.

Any student whose phone is confiscated three times during a half term: parents/carers must come to collect it, and an appropriate sanction will be put in place. Students will also be issued with a mobile phone ban for a set period of time (a term).

There has been a marked improvement in a number of aspects of academy life for our students since the implementation of our mobile phone policy including reductions in screen use time and a focus placed on social communication and interaction in person; a reduction in inappropriate, irresponsible and/or harmful use of social media and improved restorative practices enabling more effective conflict resolution. Such mobile phone restrictions have been the subject of recent national debate and many schools have restricted their use due to the related benefits for students linked to their wellbeing, focus and concentration.

At Shirebrook Academy students must not use their mobile device to contact parents/carers during the day. This is a clear breach of our Behaviour and Rewards Policy. We have clear and robust systems in place to ensure that timely contact is made with parents/carers in cases of emergency. We appreciate that there are sometimes situations where a student may feel they need to contact home during the day. Students are, and have always been, allowed to do this via Student Reception or the Pastoral Team.

Linked to this, I would also like to ask you for your support in not contacting your child yourselves directly via their mobile device during the Academy day. Thank you for your understanding linked to this. If your child does contact you during the school day, please remind them that they should not be contacting you on their mobile device and ask them to speak to either their Year Team or Student Reception so that a call can be made home. This will support both your child in meeting the academy standards and expectations and staff that will be working with them.



All adults in school have a responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Where incidents or situations arise in the academy, there will always be staff that can support children. It does not help swift or effective resolution to such incidents or situations where partial information may be received by parents/carers. Often such communication can prove detrimental and make it more difficult for academy staff to take action and liaise with parents/carers to support children in staying safe and prioritise their wellbeing and learning.

Thank you for taking the time to speak to your children about how phones should not be used on the academy site during the day and how they can access support should they need to speak to you whilst in the academy.

We appreciate you working in partnership with us.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, reading 'Lindsey Burgin'.

Mrs Lindsey Burgin
Principal