

# HOLBROOK ACADEMY

Acting Headteacher: George Anstee-Parry, M.Ed, NPQH  
Acting Deputy Headteacher: Sarah Watson



6<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

## Mobile Phones

I am writing to inform you of an update to the mobile phone policy at Holbrook Academy.

Mobile phones have become an integral part of modern society, and it is hard to imagine a time before their ubiquity. However, the presence of mobile phones in schools can present various challenges for our students. At present, our policy permits students to carry their phones, typically in their trouser pockets, but usage is restricted to learning purposes with explicit permission from the class teacher. Despite this, we have observed instances where phones are used without permission, which can be distracting.

Schools should be environments free from the distractions associated with mobile phones, and we are fortunate to have ample resources, including additional computers we are acquiring, to support learning without the need for mobile phones in the classroom. Therefore, we are now implementing a change to this policy.

We understand that as parents and carers, you may feel it is important for your child to carry their phone for safety reasons when they are travelling to and from the Academy. Should you decide to allow your child to bring their phone to school, we request that upon arrival, the phone is either:

- Switched off and handed into student reception for safe-keeping, or
- Switched off and placed inside their school bag, not in their pockets.

If you need to contact your child during school hours, please leave a message at the main office and this will be passed on to them.

Please note that any phones seen or heard during the school day will be confiscated and retained at the main office for collection by the student at the end of the day. In the event that a student's phone is confiscated more than twice, it will need to be collected from the main office by a parent or designated adult.

Students have been advised of this change during assemblies this week and we would ask for your full cooperation with this policy.

Yours sincerely,

George Anstee-Parry  
Acting Headteacher

