



Barr Beacon School
www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk

Ref: LD/cc/Mobile Phones

June 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Barr Beacon School is a **NO MOBILE PHONE SITE** for Years 7, 8,9,10 and 11 pupils.

I want to take this opportunity to inform you of the procedure we will follow if your child chooses to break this school rule and bring a mobile phone into school.

The phone will be confiscated immediately and you will be contacted so that a mutually convenient time can be arranged for you to meet with a member of Leadership. This meeting will enable me to ensure that the phone is checked, in your company, for any inappropriate content. The meeting to check the phone will not happen on the day of confiscation. However, we will endeavour to meet you within two weeks of confiscation. If, following this meeting with you, your child brings his/her phone into school again, the phone will be checked again for inappropriate content by a member of Leadership and will remain in the school safe for 6 weeks.

During a most recent incident, several pupils were found with images of other school pupils on their phones and the phones contained photographs/videos that had been taken on school site. If we are to keep your child safe, it is **ESSENTIAL** that no other pupil is allowed to have images of your child in their possession, without your consent.

I would also urge you to read an article printed in the guardian which shows the results of a study by the London school of economics. This study found that pupils at mobile-phone free schools performed better in GCSE examinations and showed a sustained improvement in examination results. This article can be viewed at <http://www.theguardian.com/education/2015/may/15/mobile-phone-bans-improve-school-exam-results-research-shows>

My staff may also be conducting checks to ensure that all pupils are following this most important rule in order to ensure that your child is as safe as possible.

I would urge you to ensure that you know all pass codes for your child's phone and that you are checking this at home on a regular basis. This is deemed to be best practice in terms of keeping children safe as it will enable you to monitor him/her for age inappropriate content and also to monitor the communication your child may be having with others, including any potentially 'risky' adults. Please see our e-safety parental advice, this can be found under the 'Publications' then 'Parental Online Safety Guide' tab on the school website.

I would ask that you reinforce with your child the need to leave their phone at home and that their phone will not be brought onto Barr Beacon School site and that if they choose to break this rule, you and your child are clear about our procedure.

I thank you again for your continued support in this most important safeguarding matter.

Yours sincerely

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