

05 September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year. We are looking forward to the year ahead and working with you to unlock your child's potential.

As you are aware we have introduced our Ready to Learn characteristics which form the foundation of our behaviour systems. As part of this introduction we have also reviewed other aspects of our school rules and as such we have made an alteration to our expectations on mobile phone usage during the day. This change is on a trial basis and will be reviewed weekly to ensure it continues to support the ethos of the Academy.

Last year our expectation was that students were not on their phones during the school day, except when given permission by teachers to use them for work purposes. This year we are going to trial over the Autumn term the students having access to their phones during break and lunch (including headphones). To facilitate this approach, we will be delivering sessions as part of the tutor programme to ensure students are aware of appropriate usage expectations. The Headteacher has also delivered assemblies to the whole school today to very clearly outline our expectations for appropriate usage.

The safeguarding of all members of our community is of paramount importance therefore the students have been given very clear instructions around images and social media content. Students are not permitted to take any photographic images or recordings of any type on the school site.

We hope that giving students this privilege will allow them to demonstrate the appropriate level of responsibility required. Should students use their phone in an inappropriate manner or not in line with the Academy's clear expectations then appropriate action will be taken as always.

I would ask for your support in having conversations at home about appropriate mobile phone usage to ensure there is a consistent message.

Should you have any questions about this decision please do not hesitate to contact me n.bungay@fareham-academy.co.uk

Yours faithfully



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