



Clacton County High School

Walton Road, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex, CO15 6DZ
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Principal: Neil Gallagher

Our reference: GALLET8/LH

18th October 2018

Dear Parent/Carers

Re: YEARS 7 – 11 USE OF MOBILE PHONES IN SCHOOL

I wanted to write to thank you for responding so positively to the changes that we will be implementing following the October half term i.e. from Monday, 29th October, regarding use of mobile phones on the school site.

As you will be aware, we intend to ban phones from being used by the students throughout the entire school day, including their social times. This decision has been made to reduce the negative impact that the use of social media has on our students and to try to reduce their need to be constantly connected. We want our students to be able to give their full attention and focus to their studies, without the distraction of their phones and social media and we are hoping that this will improve peer-to-peer personal communication during the day and give our students some breathing space from being online.

Whilst the responses we have received from parents have been overwhelmingly positive, we have had a couple of concerns raised, mainly about the need to communicate with children whilst in school and of not being able to be in touch at all times.

Parents should rest assured, if there is an urgent need to speak with your child, please email admin@countyhigh.org.uk and in the subject box enter 'urgent attention' with the message to be relayed, clearly marked with the student's name, form/year group and the relationship to the child. This mailbox is constantly monitored and there will be an effective response to an email.

As a reminder for you, there will be a phased approach to the introduction of the new changes. From Monday, 29th October, students will be issued with a warning and requested to turn off their phones and put them away out of sight. We are hoping that this will gradually reduce our students' dependence on being connected.

I will write to you again in December to let you know how the changes are progressing and an update on the impact that this is having on students; their interactions and focus in lessons.

Once again, thank you for your positive support.

Yours sincerely

N GALLAGHER
Principal