



Forrester High School

RESPECT • BELIEVE • ACHIEVE

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Dear Parents/Carers

Forrester High School Mobile Phone Policy (refreshed January 2023)

Maximising learning and teaching time while in class is important to the attainment and achievement of young people at Forrester High School. We recognise that during the pandemic, a key way of connecting and interacting was through social media, but we know that overuse of social media is connected to anxiety and that receiving and sending messages during class time is disruptive and can lead to negative experiences. We are really keen to discourage mobile phone use during learning time and therefore have refreshed our Mobile Phone Policy to support our young people with this.

Next week, we will adopt an **“out of sight”** approach where mobile phones must not be used during lessons, unless at the teacher’s very specific request. We ask that our young people do not enter classrooms on their devices, but instead, ensure their phone is turned off in their bag or choose to place their phone in the **“Mobile Phone Tray/box/Pouch”** in each classroom to be picked up at the end of the period. Phone in pocket or phone on desk are not part of our refreshed policy. Classrooms will be considered **“mobile-free zones”**.

Should a phone be accessed without permission during the lesson, the phone will be confiscated by the member of staff, and returned to the young person at the end of the lesson. If this approach does not work, a member of the Senior Leadership Team will attempt to resolve the situation, but it is likely the phone will be removed until the end of the lesson, and contact made with home. In extreme cases when a phone is not handed over, a young person will remain out of class and parents invited in to discuss the concern.

For repeat offenders, phones will be removed and students will pick them up at lunch time or at the end of the day from the appropriate Depute Head for the young person’s House. Staff are asked to be consistent in this.

We ask for your support with this in the following ways:

- Please discuss the importance of learning without the distraction of checking or sending mobile phone notifications with your young person
- Please do not message or call your young person during learning time; in case of emergency, please call the school office and information can be shared by an appropriate member of staff who can ensure your young person is supported
- Consider installing parental restriction apps

We are committed to ensuring our young people learn without the distraction of notifications during lessons and will do all we can to foster positive mobile phone habits at Forrester. Pupils, staff and Parents have been part of the consultation around this refreshed approach.

Thank you for your support.

Stephen Rafferty
Head Teacher



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No Mobile Phones



- 1** Phones go into your bag, or a provided pouch/box at the start of every lesson.
- 2** The teacher will remove any phones if they are seen during the lesson, and returned at the end.
- 3** If you choose not to pass over your phone, this will result in removal from class, and contact home. Time out of the next class if needed.

“Together we...”
respect • believe • achieve