



The Peele Community College

Accept Challenge Achieve Success

Acting Headteacher: Miss Elizabeth Smith BA (Hons)

14th April 2016

Our Ref: ES/AH

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Mobile Phone Use in College

As you are aware, the college rules clearly state that students should not have or use mobile phones in college.

Over the past few weeks we have seen an increase in the number of students using their phones, mainly at break and lunch time but also during lessons.

While mobile phones and personal communication devices are common place in today's society, their use and the responsibility for using them should not be taken lightly. Some issues surrounding the possession of these devices are:

- they can make students and staff more vulnerable to cyber bullying
- they can be used to access inappropriate internet material
- they can be a distraction in the classroom
- they are valuable items that could be stolen, damaged, or lost
- they can have integrated cameras, which can lead to child protection, bullying and data protection issues.

The college therefore adopts a zero tolerance Electronic Device Policy for students during the school day:

- Phones and electronic devices (including headphones) will be confiscated and given to the school office for secure storage
- Students will be asked to collect the phone at the end of the school day
- The incident will be logged on our behaviour management system
- Any student who refuses to hand over the complete phone (battery and SIM card) / device when requested will be removed from the lesson by either the Head of Year or a member of the senior leadership team. This in turn will lead to a 1 day internal isolation in the first event and then a fixed term exclusion for repeat offences.

We do however understand that a parent/carer may wish for their child to have a mobile phone for their journey to and from school.

Emergencies:

- If a student needs to contact his/her parents/carers they will be allowed to use a school phone
- If parents/carers need to contact their child/children urgently they should phone the school office and a message will be relayed promptly.

Thank you in advance for your support in tackling this problem.

Yours faithfully

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Acting Headteacher

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