



Mowbray School

North Yorkshire County Council

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Dear Parent/Carer

Friday 8th December 2017

PUPILS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BRING MOBILE PHONES, PHOTOGRAPHIC OR AUDIO RECORDING DEVICES INTO SCHOOL AND THE PREMISES FROM MONDAY 11TH DECEMBER 2017

I write to you to inform you that I have made the decision that pupils are not allowed mobile phones nor any photographic or audio recording device in school, nor in our school grounds and on any activities outside of the school, such as educational visits.

I have made this decision for reasons of safeguarding, by that I mean keeping children and staff safe in school from misuse of phones by pupils. I have always taken the view that we need to be able to teach our pupils to be responsible with technology, however increasingly we have found that mobile phones are negatively affecting our pupils learning, their safety, wellbeing and that of staff too.

We are taking measures to ensure that pupils are not able to take photographs, video clips and other recordings, without consent and posting them online through 'apps' and websites. This prevents both pupils and staff from being potentially vulnerable to illegal activity. You may also have seen in the press the dangers of pupils accessing the internet and 'live streaming' to hundreds of unknown persons instantly.

I would advise that you look at the 'Think you know' website <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/> which will help you keep your child safe when accessing the internet and their use of mobile devices.

I know that many pupils bring phones and other devices into school for different reasons, some to listen to music, some as a phone and some to play games on. Quite simply pupils are forbidden to be in possession of a mobile phone or any photographic or audio recording device in school or on our premises. Escorts may look after such devices for your child or they may hand them over to the school office, at no point must a pupil have hold of them on the premises or in the school building itself. If we see pupils in possession of any of these devices, we will confiscate them immediately and hand them over at the end of the school day to parents or escorts. If pupils refuse to comply with our requests, I will insist that parents come and collect their child from school immediately.

Those pupils who wish to listen to music at break times, can do so with MPS3/MP4 players or Digital Audio Players.

I hope that you will respect this decision and understand the reason why it has been made and I ask that you help support this by enforcing this at home prior to your child coming to school.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Tearle, Headteacher