



St Louis Catholic School

Diocese of Clifton

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6th February 2017

Dear Parents,

We have spent some time last week talking with the children about their use of social media, texting and messaging whilst out of school during the evenings and weekends. It seems that a few of the children, and I emphasise that it is a few, have been messaging each other and setting up a variety of group chats. This got out of hand with the result that some of the children were being upset and were upsetting each other.

As part of our continuing programme of study, Miss Jones has taught some specific lessons about keeping safe when using the internet and messaging services and I have been talking with the children to emphasise the importance of taking extreme care when using the technology they have at their disposal. We will continue to do so.

Many of the children use a wide range of devices and several bring a mobile phone to school. We have taken the opportunity to review how we handle mobile phones when the children bring them to school. They are currently stored in the office all day so that the children do not have access to them and that will continue, but I would like to clarify some of the arrangements. I am enclosing a mobile phone agreement which clearly sets out our position on the children bringing mobile phones to school which I would ask you to read and return the agreement section.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Triggs

Headteacher





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Mobile Phone and Mobile Device Agreement for Pupils.

While we fully acknowledge a parent's right to allow their child to bring a mobile phone to school if they walk to and from school without adult supervision, St Louis discourages pupils bringing mobile phones to school unless parents feel it is necessary.

When a child needs to bring a phone into school, a permission slip must be signed by the parent and the phone must be left in the school office at the start of the day and collected from there at the end of the day. If a pupil is taking part in an after school club, the phone or device will be collected after that has finished. Phones should be clearly marked and easily identified so that each pupil knows their own phone. Parents are advised that St Louis School accepts no liability for the loss or damage to mobile phones which are brought into school or school grounds.

Where a pupil is found by a member of staff to be using a mobile phone, the phone will be confiscated from the pupil, who will record the name of the pupil and attach it to the phone. The mobile phone will be stored by the school office. The pupil may collect the phone at the end of the school day. A letter will be sent home to parents requesting that a permission slip be returned the next day. If this practice continues more than three times, then the school will confiscate the phone until an appropriate adult collects the phone from a member of staff. If a pupil is found taking photographs or video footage with a mobile phone of either other pupils or teachers, this will be regarded as a serious offence and we will take action according to our Behaviour Policy.

Should a pupil be found to be using their phone inappropriately at school, we reserve the right to withdraw this privilege and they will no longer be able to bring a phone into school.

We ask that parents should talk to their children about the appropriate use of text messages as they can be used to bully pupils.

Should parents need to contact pupils or vice versa during the school day, this should be done via the usual school procedure of contacting the school office via phone or email.

The agreement supports the Health & Safety, Anti bullying, Child Protection and Internet/E-safety policies.

Mobile Phone/mobile device Parental Consent Form

Dear Parent/Carer

If your child is bringing in a mobile phone to school on a regular basis, please could you sign the form below to give your permission for your child to do so.

Your child needs to bring their phone to the school office first thing in the morning before they go their classroom.

The school bears no responsibility for the loss or damage to a mobile phone.

Your child's phone should be appropriately marked so that it can be easily recognised.

Should your child be found using their phone inappropriately, the school reserves the right to withdraw this privilege and they will no longer be able to bring their phone into school.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Richard Triggs

Head teacher

MOBILE PHONE PARENTAL CONSENT

I/we give permission for our child (name) in Year
to bring their mobile phone into school.

We have read the agreement and understand its implications

Name of child:.....

Make/Model of phone:.....

Any identifying features eg type of case:.....

Mobile phone number:.....

Signed Date.....

PLEASE RETURN PERMISSION SLIP TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE. THANK YOU