



BECCLES FREE SCHOOL

"Providing a foundation for life"

5 September 2018

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Dear Parents / Carers

I hope you have had a lovely summer. I look forward to welcoming all the students back into school tomorrow. As per the previous ParentMail, students will need their PE kit on the first day, but should come in the correct school uniform with a pencil case and appropriate stationery.

Over the summer the Seckford Foundation Free School Trust have reviewed a number of our policies, including the Mobile Phone Policy. For many young people today the ownership of a mobile phone is considered a necessary and vital part of their social life. When used creatively and responsibly the smart phone has great potential to support a student's learning experiences. However, recent incidents and research have also highlighted the negative impact that these devices can have on a student's concentration and focus in lessons.

Therefore from the 6 September the Seckford Foundation Free Schools Trust will be adopting a new policy on the use of mobile phones, smart watches and tablets. Essentially, all such devices will not be allowed to be used on School premises, unless authorised and agreed by a member of staff for specific use in a classroom.

The School accepts that there may be particular circumstances in which a parent wishes their son / daughter to have a mobile phone for their journey to and from school, but all such devices should be switched off upon arrival at School and kept in the student's bag or locker until the end of the school day. Any member of staff who sees a mobile phone, smart watch or tablet will confiscate the item immediately.

Any parent who needs to make urgent contact with their son / daughter during the School day can do so via the school office.

A copy of the full policy is attached for your information. I appreciate that some students will find this policy difficult and we would ask for your support in order to ensure the best possible learning environment for your son / daughter.

I will be available at the Parents Open Forum on the 8 October from 11.15am to discuss any concerns you may have in regard to this policy.

Yours faithfully,

Mr D Lees
Headteacher

