



Tring School

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Dear Parent/Carers

Many of our students will have received new phones, i-pods, i-pads, computers or games consoles for Christmas therefore, I have taken this appropriate opportunity to raise your awareness of the pitfalls/dangers of these devices and the school's position regarding them.

Technology is advancing at a phenomenal rate and the capacity of modern mobile phones is incredible. The internet is available at any time or any place. This brings its own dangers. As a school and for you as parents, it is extremely difficult to monitor what your child accesses via their phone.

As a school, mobile phones, i-pads, laptops and i-pods, cannot be used at anytime on the school site (except for sixth form students who may use their phones inside the common room or in their designated work area in the Learning Centre). These items will be confiscated if seen and the school operates an escalating sanction system for confiscations (see table below).

Number of Confiscations	Sanction
First Offence	Student collects the item at the end of the day.
Second Offence	2 day confiscation – collected by parent or letter of permission for student to collect. Student will receive a lunchtime detention.
Third Offence	5 day (school days) confiscation – collected by parent or letter of permission for student to collect. Student will receive a 1 hour afterschool detention.
Fourth Offence	Confiscated until the end of the half term, item to be collected by parent. Student will be given a 2 hour Leadership Team detention. A meeting will be arranged between parent, student and the Head of House to discuss persistent breaking of school rules.

You may want to consider applying certain security settings to phones for younger students and keep a close eye on the bills coming in.

We endeavour to make students aware of the dangers of the internet and insist our students sign up to the Student ICT Acceptable Use Agreement (pages 8&9 of the school planner). The school also monitors the student's use of the internet and we have security filters, to stop students accessing inappropriate sites. We would ask that parents monitor what happens at home. This is made more difficult if your child's computer is located in their bedroom, if they have access to 3G or Wi-Fi or they possess games consoles, SMART phones or i-pads. Further information on protecting your children, can be found at sites such as: www.thinkuknow.co.uk or www.nspcc.org.uk.

If you have any further questions or queries about the contents of this letter, please contact me at school.

Yours sincerely

Nigel Barlow
Assistant Headteacher

