



**Park Hall
Academy**

SGR/WH

20 January 2012

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

Following the Christmas break we are seeing the usual increase in mobile phones and other mobile devices as many of our young people have had these as Christmas presents.

As you will be aware Park Hall Academy has a clear policy stating that students should not use their mobile phones in school. This is based around a safety issue for our students i.e. not calling attention to themselves with expensive items and also due to child protection guidance to prevent pictures or recordings being made. Mobile phones that are visible to staff may be confiscated.

However, we understand that for safety and security to and from school, many parents and carers want their children to carry a mobile phone in case of an emergency. With this in mind, we accept that some students will carry mobile phones while in school but we expect these to be stored securely at all times in either a pocket or a school bag. When students have their PE lessons, these must be locked away. I must also point out that students are responsible for their phones or other devices.

As an Academy, we will support any student with the loss or theft of a mobile phone where feasible but this can often be very difficult to investigate. I strongly advise that if your son or daughter's mobile phone is lost or stolen while in school that the Police are contacted. We will happily share any information that we have with the Police.

I would also like to remind parents and carers of some simple safety tips, which were part of an assembly that all students saw last term, with regard to protecting themselves and their belongings.

Don't carry your phone where it can easily be seen - like dangling from your belt, leaving on a desk or out of your pocket in your hand.

Don't leave your phone unattended - like in your bag or blazer pocket.

Switch your phone off when you're in school. Even better, don't take it at all unless you really need to.

Use your pin number to lock your phone when you're not using it and keep your pin number safe and secret.

We thank you for your continued support in securing a positive Academy ethos.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Spencer Gregory
Individual Learning Leader

Principal: Tony Morrison

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