



The John Warner School • Stanstead Road • Hoddesdon • Hertfordshire • EN11 0QF
Telephone: 01992 462889 • Facsimile: 01992 470679 • E-mail: admin@johnwarner.herts.sch.uk
Website: www.johnwarner.herts.sch.uk • Headteacher: Jeremy M. Scott

23rd October 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

We are writing to you to ensure that all pupils are aware of the school's Mobile Phone Acceptable Use policy (see attached policy) on their return to school after October half term. To ensure the safety and wellbeing of all pupils and staff within the school environment it is important that students are not using their mobile phones during the school day unless directed to by a member of staff for an educational purpose within a lesson.

We have had an increase in the number of pupils who are either involved in social media groups or using their mobile phones inappropriately during the school day. This is not only a safeguarding concern but is having a detrimental impact on the mental health of a number of pupils.

Should pupils be found to be using their mobile phones during break, lunch or lesson time without permission mobile phones will be confiscated by staff and placed in the school reception. In the first instance pupils will be able to collect after school, the second instance parents would need to collect and any future concerns would mean pupils would not be able to have their mobile phone on the school site. We will however have phone zones available for different year group bubbles to be able to access their phones.

As parents and carers we would encourage you to check on what social media platforms your children have access to, to ensure that they are appropriate and that security is in place to best protect them as well as ensuring that they are not in any large group Whatsapp groups that are linked to the school.

Should any future incidents be reported where students are actively taking part in online bullying via social media we will continue to follow the schools Behaviour for Learning consequences which does not tolerate any form of bullying of our pupils.

It is important to the school that pupils or parents are able to report any form of bullying that they may be experiencing and would encourage parents to report this directly to the school through our new link on the school website- <https://www.johnwarner.herts.sch.uk/368/report-bullying> so that the pastoral team can best support moving forward.

If you need any further guidance on social media safety we would direct you towards the NSPCC resources that support parents with online safety- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>. Additional links can also be found on the school website in our Pastoral support section.

If you have any further questions please feel free to contact the pastoral team.

Yours faithfully

Jennifer Pope
Assistant Headteacher KS3

Lauren Thomas
Assistant Headteacher KS4