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St Michael's
Catholic Academy

Head Teacher: Clare Humble

Deputy Head(s): Marc Scott, Clare Carey
& Matthew McAuley

BHCET CEO: Stuart McGhee

BHCET Chair of Directors: Yvonne Coates

9 December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to update you on our recent mobile phone consultation. Firstly, I want to thank so many of you for sharing your thoughts with us. Mrs Carey, our Designated Safeguarding Lead has led the consultation with all our students. Whilst many of our students like the current policy, they understand that there are good reasons upon which our proposed changes are based.

Considering all views, I have decided that we will proceed with changing our mobile phone arrangements next term. **From our return to school on Monday 5 January 2026 no mobile phones will be allowed in the school grounds from 8.40am when students enter the school grounds to 3.25pm when students leave.** Students will be able to travel to and from school with their phones, but they will need to be switched off and placed in their blazer pockets or in their bags during the school day.

On their return to school on Monday 5 January 2026, all students will be given a new school planner, and they will be given a new paper copy of their timetable. In an extended registration during period 1, students will be taken through the new mobile phone arrangements again and given the time to get their timetables stuck into their planners. This is to make sure that all students will have a copy of their timetable as they will not be able to look at it on their phones.

In the run up to the end of the Autumn Term, Mrs Sutton our medical lead, will contact the parents of all students who use their mobile phones to control their medical conditions; special arrangements will be in place for these students. Also, Mrs Abbs and the Learning Support Key Workers, will contact the parents of students with Individual Learning Plans where the student may need phone access. These students will be given very clear instructions on how they will be supported.

Where there are **exceptional** circumstances, we will arrange for access at break or lunchtime in a quiet supervised space by arrangement with a member of staff. Any exceptions to this policy, e.g. trips, will be communicated to parents in advance.

Regarding the sanctions for those students who do not follow the new routines, these will be able to be found on the school website under the 'Parents' tab and then click on the 'Our School' link followed by the 'New mobile phone arrangements' link. This link should be available by Monday 15 December 2025 at the latest.

Once again, I thank you for your support in this consultation process.

Yours sincerely,

Clare Humble
Headteacher



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