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## Update on Mobile Phones and Uniform

Dear Families,

I am writing to update you on our school's policy regarding the use of mobile phones and with some key reminders about uniform expectations.

### Mobile Phones

At St Wilfrid's RC College we are dedicated to providing an environment that is both safe and conducive to learning, however we have recently seen an increase in the use of mobile phones during the school day which is causing disruption and is a potential source of conflict.

Some of the issues presented currently by mobile phones in school are:

- **Additional distraction:**

Mobile phones divert pupils' attention away from lessons. By limiting their use during school hours, we help to ensure that all pupils remain focused on their learning and fully engaged in classroom activities.

- **Reducing social interaction:**

While technology can be a valuable resource, we believe that personal interactions are essential for developing social skills. Limiting phone usage encourages face-to-face communication and collaboration among peers, fostering a healthier social environment.

- **Conflict between pupils and with staff:**

The presence of mobile phones can sometimes contribute to cyberbullying and other inappropriate behaviours. Taking photos, videos or recordings of any nature poses a safeguarding risk and is prohibited. Pupils can be reluctant to put away their phones when challenged by staff, which can result in conflict and disruption.

In order to remove this disruption, we have taken the decision that mobile phones for pupils in **Years 7 to 11** will be banned on our school site, effective from the **Easter holidays**.

- Phones must be **turned off and out of sight** from the moment pupils enter the school gates, including **before and after school**.

- **If a phone is visible**, it will be **confiscated** by a member of staff and taken to the main office.
- Pupils can **collect their phone at the end of the school day** when leaving the site.
- If a pupil needs to contact home, they should speak with their **Head of House** or a **member of the reception team**, who will assist them if necessary.

Students in the 6<sup>th</sup> form are permitted to utilise mobile phones in the 6<sup>th</sup> form café area ONLY. Mobile phones should not be used anywhere else on the school site.

We understand that mobile phones play an important role in modern communication, and we encourage their safe use outside of school hours. However, during the school day, our focus remains on creating a distraction-free environment that supports every pupil's learning and well-being.

## Uniform Expectations

Our school uniform plays a key role in fostering a sense of pride, community and belonging. We kindly ask that you ensure your child is in the correct uniform each day.

Our uniform consists of:

- Black blazer with college badge [**must be worn at all times**]
- Grey permanent pleated knee-length skirt
- Grey regulation school trousers
- White shirt, buttoned to neck
- School tie, Green with gold diagonal stripes [**must be worn at all times**]
- Optional Grey traditional V neck school jumper [**Hoodies are not permitted**]
- Plain black tights or white/black socks ankle or knee length
- Plain black **formal shoes without logos** [not trainers or plimsolls]
- Sensible Waterproof outdoor coat [plain, dark colours]
- **Trainers must not be worn** under any circumstances except for PE lessons unless a medical note is provided by a GP.
- Extreme hairstyles, **makeup, and jewellery are not permitted.**

Pupils' uniform will be inspected on a daily basis. We expect all pupils to comply.

- If pupils come to school in non-regulation items, such as **hoodies, or earrings**, these will be confiscated and returned to pupils at the end of the day.
- Please note that formal shoes only are to be worn; **trainers are not permitted.**

Parents may be contacted during the school day if pupils arrive without the correct uniform and asked to bring in the correct uniform. Should you face difficulties in providing the required uniform, please contact Miss Fletcher in the school office; support may be available through our hardship fund.

If there are unavoidable issues, please send a note or contact the school to discuss a resolution: we have a small stock of uniform items available to lend to pupils.

Our uniform policy can be found in full here: [Policies - St. Wilfrid's R.C. College](#)

By adhering to these policies and expectations, we can collectively create a safe, respectful and supportive environment that enables every child to flourish.

Your partnership is essential in making this possible. Should you have any questions or need further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

Wishing you and your family a restful break over Easter.

Best wishes,

**Mrs C Lennox**



**Headteacher**