



Hall Park
Academy

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Headteacher: Mr D Crossley

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Dear Parent/Carer

Phone Pouches

As we continue to strive for the best learning environment for our students, we are constantly looking for ways to improve focus and reduce distractions. To this end, we have piloted the use of phone pouches with Year 7 students this half term. The aim was to remove concerns around the use of mobile phones in school and the temptation for students to check them during the day. The pilot has been very successful. Teachers have observed fewer phone-related behaviour incidents and reported an improvement in concentration in lessons. For these reasons, we will be introducing phone pouches for all students in Years 7 – 11 in September.

All students will be provided with a lockable mobile phone pouch on their first day in September. Year 7 student pouches will be collected at the end of this academic year and given back out in September. Students place their phones into the locked pouch before they arrive at school. This will be checked before the first lesson of the day. Students will keep their phones with them at all times in their pouches, in their bags, ensuring that they are not tempted to use their phones during lessons or breaks. They will be able to unlock their phone pouches on the way out of school using a magnetic unlocking device.

In the event of an emergency where a student needs to use their phone, they can ask a member of staff to unlock their phone pouch for them. One area highlighted by a small number of Year 7 parents during the trial was being able to contact their child during the school day. If parents need to contact their child during the school day, they should call the school reception, and we will ensure the message is passed on promptly.

There will be a small charge if students lose or damage their pouch.

We are confident that we will see the improvements we have seen in the trial throughout the whole school. Thank you for your support as we work together to create the best possible learning environment for our students.

If you have any queries, please use the contact form on the school website.

Yours faithfully

Mr D Crossley
Headteacher