



**May 2024**

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Pupils' mobile phones / devices in school**

Mobile phones and other mobile devices are not permitted to be seen or used in Sandhill View Academy. This is also backed up by the DfE.

This decision was not taken lightly; It was taken sometime ago due to previous:

- Persistent interruptions to lessons.
- Repeated incidents of cyber-bullying.
- Poor pupil concentration in lessons.
- Numerous unpleasant incidents caused by abusive text messaging.
- Inappropriate contacts made on phones during school hours.

If a pupil is seen with a mobile phone or device within the school boundaries it will be confiscated and this may be done by any member of school staff.

Phones or devices will be placed in an envelope bearing the child's name and then locked in a secure place.

The only time that a confiscated phone or device will be returned will be from 3.30 pm until 4.00 pm on Fridays from Mrs Johnston's office. In the first two instances of confiscation the pupil may go to Mrs Johnston's office at the stated time to collect the phone or device. However, where a phone or device is confiscated for the third time (or more) it will only be returned to that pupil's parent/carer.

At this point we would remind all parents and pupils that the school does not accept responsibility for mobile phones or any other items of pupil's equipment whatsoever.

We are fortunate in having excellent support from parents of our pupils and once again we would appreciate your support in this matter. As staff in Sandhill View, we are here to try to ensure your child achieves the very best of which they are capable and that is why we believe this step is necessary. We remain in "loco parentis" to your children throughout the school day and we understand and welcome the fact that their care is our responsibility.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Dodd  
Headteacher