

The Heights Academy, Auckland Drive, Smith's Wood, Birmingham, B36 0DD

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23rd October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Mobile Phone Policy

I hope this letter finds you well. Since September, we have introduced a new mobile phone policy designed to support the wellbeing and safety of all pupils and staff. As a reminder, the aims of why a new approach was needed was:

- To keep all pupils, staff, and visitors safe
- Ensure a calm, predictable start to the day
- Promote trusted adult relationships
- Encourage alternative regulation tools
- Protect privacy and minimise potential for digital misuse

We're pleased to share that the vast majority of pupils have responded positively and are following the policy supportively and with understanding about their own welfare and that of their peers and staff in school.

We recognise that for some pupils, mobile phones can play a role in emotional regulation or managing anxiety. We want to acknowledge this and assure you that we are committed to supporting all pupils as they develop alternative strategies that promote independence and resilience. We have been working closely with pupils using relational approaches and gaining trust with key staff.

Starting from **November**, pupils will be expected to either:

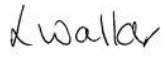
- **Leave their mobile phone or device at home, or**
- **On their own initiative, hand it in at the school office** upon arrival, where it will be securely stored.

If a pupil needs access to their phone during the day for a specific reason, we will make arrangements for them to use it in a private space before returning it to the office.

We are contacting you because your child has not yet been consistently handing in their phone, and we would like to work together in a successful partnership of school, pupil and parents, to help children meet this expectation, with your support. If a pupil refuses to hand in their phone, we will ask parents to collect them promptly from school. In such cases, the pupil will receive an absence mark for the remainder of the day.

We truly appreciate your support in helping us uphold this policy. It's a pleasure to work in partnership with you to create a safe and focused learning environment for all our pupils.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L Walker'.

Lisa Walker
Head Teacher