

Principal: Tina Graham
Milton Lane, Dartmouth, Devon. TQ6 9HW
T: 01803839700 F: 01803231188
E: admin@dartmouthacademy.org.uk
W: www.dartmouthacademy.org.uk



Outcome of the mobile phone consultation

Dear Parent/Carer,

Following our recent letter and consultation with pupils and parents about the school looking at the range of options around mobile phone use we have come to the decision to ban phone use in school. In response to the feedback we will however allow children to bring their phones with them and keep them switched off in their bags.

The majority of responses were in favour of a ban of mobile phone use during the school day but families were keen that pupils were allowed to have their phones on them and we agreed that this is key for pupils to have a way to contact parents and carers to and from school.

The consultation also highlighted that alongside the ban there needs to be continued education about proportionate mobile phone use in order for pupils to effectively manage this for themselves outside of school time.

If pupils are seen to be using a phone or have a phone out during the day a member of staff will confiscate the phone and this will be taken to reception until the end of the day where it can be collected.

If phone use becomes a persistent problem then we will contact home to discuss the issue and agree that the pupil cannot bring their phone into school.

Not using phones in school and having them kept off in bags will lead to increased focus on learning, improved socialisation at break and lunch and a reduction in behaviour issues related to phone use.

A suggestion was made by a small number of parents that phones could be collected and returned by the teacher at the start and end of each lesson. This would lead to such a significant loss of learning time each lesson that we are unable to action this.

The ban will take effect from Monday 29th October.

Please let us take this opportunity to thank all of you for your contributions to this process and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards
Matt Bindon
Deputy Principal