



Happiness at the heart of learning

Whitehall Junior School Cowley Road Uxbridge Middlesex UB8 2LX

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Re: Year 6 use of mobile phones**

It has come to our attention today that some Year 6 pupils are not using their mobile phones in accordance with our school rules. Phones brought into school for the purpose of notifying parents of their safe arrival, must be turned off at the school gate. Today, we have had to attend to matters where pupils have been taking photographs of one another on the school site, particularly on the playground at the start of the day. We have spoken to Year 6 to remind them of our safeguarding practices and also of the need to obtain consent before photographing others. That said, no child should be using the camera on their phone at any point in the school day.

Whilst the relevant families have been contacted, we would like to raise awareness of this matter amongst all parents/carers. Please do reiterate online safety messages with your child and, as we have requested before, please monitor your child's phone use. You need to know what other sites and social media platforms they are accessing and ensure that such content is age appropriate.

May we also remind you that our Junior School pupils are expected to arrive by the back gate in Whitehall Road. The use of the front Cowley Road entrance is only for families with infant-aged children or those with health-related or childcare matters who have specific permission to do so. We have noticed some Year 6 pupils arriving as early as 8.10am and remaining outside of the school or running towards the shops with their friends. We are aware that they are sometimes using their phones at times when you, as parents/carers, would expect them to be safely entering their classrooms.

Finally, we would like to bring to your attention the website Childnet. This offers parents/carers a wealth of support in how to keep your child safe in this digital age. If you follow this link:

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/supporting-young-people-online/>

an information leaflet for parents can be opened in the following languages: Arabic, Bengali, Farsi, French, Hindi, Polish, Punjabi, Somali, Spanish, Turkish, Urdu, Vietnamese and Welsh.

We thank you for your ongoing support with this safeguarding matter.

Yours in education  
Mrs A Moloi  
Headteacher  
16 November 2023