

ENFIELD GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr C Lamb B.A. Hons



An Academy Trust
(Company No. 07697044)

3 July 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

You will remember that I wrote to you last month, regarding my thoughts on the School's current mobile phone rule. I consulted with you through the letter and asked parents for their views and comments regarding the changes that I was considering making.

The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive with regards to a total ban on smartphones and only allowing students to use basic phones, or 'bricks' as some call them.

I have had 50+ conversations with parents, received over 30 emails, all of which stated the idea of becoming a '**NO SMARTPHONE**' school for Years 7-11 was a positive one.

I have had one parent who feels that only allowing 'brick' phones makes our students appear like they are 'drug dealers' as these are the type of phones that dealers use as they leave no footprint to trace back to the owner. I understand this point of view, but still feel this is a very small risk compared to the risk of smartphone theft. Also having a 'brick' phone is an option, as is **NO PHONE** at all.

Therefore, I have decided to ban smartphones from Enfield Grammar School from September 2019. Students will be permitted to bring 'brick' phones into school so that parents can communicate with their sons before the start of school and at the end of the school day.

The phones are the responsibility of the students and **MUST NOT** be seen or heard in school. If they are they will be confiscated and returned to the student at the end of the week.

ANY smartphones seen or heard on or about the person of any Year 7-11 student, whilst commuting to and from school or whilst on either school site, will be confiscated and kept until the last day of half term/term. Students seen wearing headphones before the start of school and at the end of the school day, may be searched at some point during that day or the following day and if a smartphone is found the phone will be confiscated.

I have thought long and hard about this and believe a smartphone free school is a much healthier school. I believe our students are less of a target if they do not carry expensive phones and I believe we will have fewer issues with regards to social media videos and photographs if our students do not have these phones before, during and after the school day.



Your support is very much needed in implementing this change to our rules. I have no doubt that some students will bring in smartphones and when challenged, if found, will become very difficult. Please talk to your son about the importance of this change to help keep all our students that little bit safer. If they choose to ignore the rule, the smartphone will be confiscated. This decision will be final, so, your total support would be very much appreciated. All too often, parents will contact the School with reasons why their son needs to have his smartphone returned, rather than support and abide by the rules of the School.

Once again, I thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Lamb', written in a cursive style.

C Lamb
Headteacher