**Revised Mobile Phone Policy 25.02.2019**

All mobile phones must be switched off and placed in the mobile phone caddy at the start of the lesson.

Students will be allowed to collect their mobile phone from the mobile phone caddy in each classroom at the end of every lesson.

Mobile phones can only be used in class the teacher gives explicit permission.

If students refuse to put their phone in the mobile phone caddy, or take it out of the caddy without the explicit permission of the member of staff, we will confiscate it and their parents will have to collect it. They will be given an after-school detention for defiance.

Lesson time is for learning. Break and lunch are social times where students are allowed to use their mobile phone, but only if it is used responsibly.

Students will be banned from bringing a mobile phone into school if they cannot use mobile technology responsibly.

**MOBILE PHONES AT CHAUNCY SCHOOL**

**(Letter to students 13.02.2019)**

We have changed our procedures with regards to student use of mobile phones in school.

Many schools across the country are completely banning mobile phones due to growing concerns about screen addiction, increased cases of teenage mental health and anxiety illness, peer pressure and cyber-bullying driven by social media and fears surrounding grooming and gangs.

We have always tried to teach our students to use mobile technology responsibly and we have a good track record of working with students and parents to ensure that children are safe online, are aware of the risks associated with cyber-space and know who to turn to if they feel concerned about something they have seen whilst connected to the internet.

We have also adopted technology for use in the classroom and to assist learning and communication. We subscribe to Show My Homework, Office 365, SAM Learning, Doddle, Kahoot, Quizzes, Tassomai, Seneca just to name a few of the online tools designed to help students with their studies.

However, we do believe that in many cases mobile technology is becoming an unnecessary distraction. The need to constantly check SnapChat, view Instagram posts and respond to instant notifications is a disruption to good teaching and effective learning in lessons.

Every classroom now has a mobile phone caddy installed in a secure place.

All mobile phones must be switched off and placed in the mobile phone caddy at the start of each lesson. Students will be allowed to collect their mobile phone from the mobile phone caddy in each classroom at the end of every lesson.

Mobile phones can only be used in class if the teacher gives explicit permission. They may wish to use Kahoot for example, allowing students to research a topic or to use their camera to take a photo or video for a project.

We have updated the school rules and procedures to accommodate these changes. I have attached a simplified poster, which summarises these changes.

In summary, we do not want to ban mobiles phones at Chauncy School but we do want students to use them responsibly at the correct time. We feel that this strategy will help us all find that balance and further improve the quality of learning for our students.

Regards,

**Mr S Walton (Deputy Headteacher)**

**USE OF MOBILE PHONES AT CHAUNCY SCHOOL**

**(Headteacher’s Letter to Parents & Carers 13.02.2019)**

Our government has noticed that there are children in the UK and that they often go to schools. Whilst cutting funding and imposing a curriculum that would have fitted in nicely 50 years ago the great minds and their civil servants have decided to ban all phones from all schools. Children are addicted to their phones, just like many adults.

I think children should be allowed to use their phones when not in lessons. It is vital that they check on their parents’ health and whereabouts every hour and can text friends standing 10 feet away. I am sure they need to follow Donald Trump on Twitter, read the sidebar of shame on Mail Online and keep bang up to date on the explosive developments on Brexit. Boys, of course, need to keep up their 5+ hours a day playing games.

We are fitting phone holders in every classroom so that students will put their phone in the communal holder at the start of every lesson and will be able to take it out of the holder at the end of the lesson.

There is no justification for students using their phone during lessons and most do not. From Monday 25th February no-one will use their phone in lessons. We will allow our students their phones to use outside lesson time.

Please don’t contact your children during lessons. We employ Kimm and Jodi to answer phones in Reception and they are very good at passing on important messages.

The next priority is to run classes on walking downstairs, across busy roads and through doors whilst studying a screen. Putting away phones in lessons should help students concentrate and achieve more. I will also be running adult classes on correct interpretation of “No Parking” signs, disabled bays, zigzags on zebra crossings and how to avoid smashing cars on the yellow parking posts.

I know some parents, and other adults, put their phones away when eating and I recently travelled on a train where a man was looking out of the window at our beautiful countryside and would probably have been the object of wonderment if anyone had noticed.

Suggested reading: Ray Bradbury’s very short stories, “The Pedestrian” and “The Murderer” which you can get via a google search. My blogs on screen-addiction: “Class A Parenting” and “Parenting and Childhood in Crisis” are available on my website [http://dennisosullivan.co.uk](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fdennisosullivan.co.uk%2F%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR3tG4AgRbkow_iy8Wq9VQICE9HztuyB7q3NfcLLljF1BUcDBiNFz7c-l_c&h=AT2Z_juz-lZJhhoX6jrvX-5UYWzCCKCE2MBzirnuoeo88dwbwb9ycfDwQNKzvjhIFjwP4eJ-2dYAOe4zc_0D24RdUEwTK9aHa9FnPWsjaS1c2SFljXZ-5XTcsfSMud1KFijkDqi_A2uTc5rICuwu_Z2vekX8qG5KxaAmDq0tnuj1yOSmc9xNHN2r7tcteUDkcTrJtDIazxyA2pWuvXITSzkFa43Hdwa6cShkqOzX4q1mpMdZ1SepAGWdGONzsJJmeYqgSgrJT7poCYKgomJesltgrY5g4y7tg51ScqIcwpB3FqOoneItpkj8oLbwhKAuTyIoMQWUbx6cYnEtbx94Znqg2mvtjBf_UXYcySzCnGcrGheLfqtR0HdZNNajy7yG6MOv0KzM_qqoZ4cXRPg5-20c4Sx5n60yFLL9vKfXJA5BKOVGI_84nZJrkYFbKuU_iBIT1NoAyHG7460aZWNd8XqLFChhcxK6BxXMunAEFwaVWn7ea0FGHG3VmeeLYCvsaAvTE-05lim8U7akhA5G2ORTs2-v_qXJ4tm3RSUUHvCfN2ajlkb5_RburV4jggtmuHSERmddDHIHEBA37OMkLiGzCqtF_HAyLF1IitYQaaQNSEeEdFYmlR8dvowVq4m_eE4)

The internet, social media and phones are all wonderful, used wisely.

**Dennis O’Sullivan (Headteacher)**

**USE OF MOBILE PHONES AT CHAUNCY SCHOOL (CLASSROOM POSTER)**



**ALL MOBILE PHONES MUST BE SWITCHED OFF AND PLACED IN THE MOBILE PHONE CADDY AT THE START OF THE LESSON.**

* You will be allowed to collect your mobile phone from the Mobile Phone Caddy in each classroom at the end of every lesson.
* Mobile phones can only be used in class if your teacher gives explicit permission.
* If you refuse to put your phone in the mobile phone caddy, or take it out of the caddy without the explicit permission of the member of staff, we will confiscate it and your parents will have to collect it. You will be given a detention for defiance.
* Lesson time is for learning.
* Break and lunch are social times where you are allowed to use your mobile phone, but only if it is used responsibly.
* Students will be banned from bringing a mobile phone into school if they cannot use mobile technology responsibly.

**Mr S Walton (Deputy Headteacher)**