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**Headteacher:** Mr J Parr BA Hons

Tuesday, 20 February 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

You will be aware of the information that has been provided to schools by the Department for Education on prohibiting the use of mobile phones throughout the school day, so I am taking this opportunity to remind you of the school's strict "**never used, seen or heard**" policy for students.

What does this mean for my child?

Our current policy aligns with the DfE guidance on prohibiting the use of mobile phones under the '**Never used, seen or heard**' approach, therefore there is no change to how we do things at Church Stretton School. Our stance on pupil use of mobile phones is explained fully in the school Behaviour Policy but in summary, pupils may keep possession of their mobile phones only on the **strict condition that they are switched off at the bottom of the school bag and never used, seen or heard** throughout the day. This includes on entry to the school in the morning and on leaving school at the end of the school day.

At the beginning of the academic year, students were reminded about mobile phone procedures and a further reminder has been shared this week in school assemblies. Pupils know that there are consequences for breaching this including confiscation of the phone, a phone ban either temporarily or on a permanent basis and loss of social time. This practice is in line with DfE guidance, and we will enforce this policy vigorously, consistently, and visibly, to the effect that mobile phone use is prohibited throughout the school day.

In the case of an emergency, you can contact the school Reception and we will pass on the message to your child.

With the above in mind, please could you remind your child about the rules around mobile phones? We rely on your support to help our pupils concentrate in class without distraction and maintain our high standards of behaviour.

If you have any questions about our policy, please do contact us in school.

Kind regards,

John Parr  
Headteacher