



BARWELL CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ST MARY'S CHURCH BARWELL

HEADTEACHER: MISS V NEWMAN

BELIEVE ACHIEVE SUCCEED
LEARNING THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

Love thy neighbour in a flourishing school community

Wednesday 17th April 2024

Dear families,

It has been brilliant having children back into school after Easter but we are not sure about the weather. We seem to have had every season in the last few days!

Unfortunately I am writing about something that I did not think I would have to. We have always tried to be as flexible as possible and not be too heavy handed in our policies and this has included mobile phones.

Our policy has always been that primary aged children **should not** need a mobile phone at school but we are aware that some of our children walk to and from school alone and therefore families like them to have a phone in case of emergencies. We have catered for this by allowing families to request to bring a phone and complete a school phone contract and these few children have handed their phones in to be locked securely throughout the day. This has worked well for many years.

However, it has been brought to my attention that there are children bringing in mobile phones without permission. This is a huge concern and a safeguarding risk. I want to remind families that:

- Children may only bring in mobile phones in **exceptional circumstances**, for example, because they walk to and from school alone
- They are only allowed to bring in mobile phones if their families have requested and signed a school phone contract which states the exceptional circumstances
- All mobile phones should be handed in at the beginning of a school day
- Phones within school without a contract/not handed in will be confiscated
- Any confiscated phones will need to be collected by a family member
- Repeated breaches of the rules will result in sanctions

Thank you in advance with your support to keep our children safe.

Kind regards

Victoria Newman

Headteacher



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