



Trinity School

A Church of England
Academy

Ms Jo Hawkin
Headteacher

6 July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Further to last week's letter, please find attached the links to view two presentations related to transition.

The first is a welcome by your new form tutor, please follow the appropriate link below to view your child's Form Tutor welcome presentation and see their contact details should you have any follow up questions about transition and the start to Trinity. **Form details were included with the letter sent out at the end of last week.**

7CCA – Miss Cameron:	https://vimeo.com/571594716	7JHA – Mr Hamilton:	https://vimeo.com/571586027
7NBI – Mr Birt:	https://vimeo.com/571586283	7JKE – Mr Kelly:	https://vimeo.com/571586060
7LWD - Ms Wedderburn:	https://vimeo.com/571586229	7LTH – Mrs Thomas:	https://vimeo.com/571586143
7LLO - Mrs Loader:	https://vimeo.com/571586097	7GMR – Mr Morrow:	https://vimeo.com/571586004
7ELL – Miss Lloyd:	https://vimeo.com/571585964		

The transition page is now live and will answer many questions you might have, the link to access is:
<https://trinity.cumbria.sch.uk/transition-to-trinity>

Secondly is the link to the parents evening presentation – <https://vimeo.com/571722259> this is usually delivered in person at the transition day parents evening, the video has several messages from key staff regarding transition, we hope you find it useful and gives you a feel for our ethos and core values at Trinity School.

We have recently issued a letter to all parents regarding mobile phones from September. A copy of the letter is included with this information, see pages 2 and 3 of this document. Please follow the link in the letter to access the form for completion.

Return of Important Documents

The documents below are important documents and should be completed and returned either using the pre-paid envelope that was supplied when sent out or handed in person to Trinity School Reception, the staff at the reception desk will record that it has been returned, thank you for your cooperation with this.

- **Data Collection Sheet** – This was sent out to you with our first letter and included a pre-paid envelope for its return. The document includes some of your family information which we store on our computer system and forms part of your child's basic student record. If you still have not returned this document please amend, complete, and return it without delay. If you need another copy please email transition@trinity.cumbria.sch.uk and request a duplicate copy.
- **The Electronic Consent Form** – This was emailed to you recently for completion online, many thanks for the returns submitted to date. If you have not yet completed this document, follow link below and complete by Friday 9 July: [Consent and Medical Information Form](#)

To help you understand how and why we collect student information and what we do with it, please refer to the GDPR privacy notice on the front page of our website. Alternatively, a paper copy can be provided by emailing transition@trinity.cumbria.sch.uk

We will be in touch before the end of term to finalise plans for September, this is still subject to some planning, and we await further guidance from a national and county level in terms of the return dates for all schools. You may also be aware that lateral flow testing will be required before a return in September, please be reassured that the details regarding this will follow in due course and we will ensure you are informed of how this will work before your child starts with us.

Finally, should you have any specific concerns about your child's transition to secondary school, please do contact us at transition@trinity.cumbria.sch.uk and keep an eye out for us on Twitter @TrinSchCarlisle for the latest updates and news of what's happening in our school community

Yours faithfully

Jemma Leech (Mrs)
Assistant Headteacher

Celine Constant (Miss)
Head of Year 7



Trinity School

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2 July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Mobile Phones – Change to school policy from September 2021

Since we returned to school, after two long lockdown periods, we have witnessed the impact that these lockdowns have had on our students. Students have spent a lot of time using technology for learning and social interaction with others. We are increasingly concerned about the lack of social interaction between students face to face. There are times at break and lunchtimes when students sitting next to each other send messages instead of talking!

Studies have been conducted about the academic performance of students in schools where mobiles are not allowed compared to schools where they are permitted. Results showed that test scores of 16 year olds improved by 6.4%, the equivalent of adding five days to the school year according to economists. Both the Secretary of State for Education and the Chief Inspector of Schools have made it clear that their view is that schools should consider banning mobile phones during the day and support schools who choose to do this. It is likely that there may be national changes soon around mobile phone use in schools.

More worrying is the increase in the number of issues due to mobile phone misuse, both in and out of school. Whilst the majority of these incidents occur outside school hours, it is inevitable that students share information in school causing further issues for pastoral staff to deal with that could be left at the school gates.

Some of the things we have seen recently include:

- Inappropriate images being sent between students (sexting)
- Coercive behaviour to force students to send images
- Videoing of arranged fights and sharing this with others
- Online bullying and abuse
- Online racial or homophobic abuse
- Recording of staff and students without consent

Though the number of serious incidents is still low and are dealt with effectively by pastoral teams when we are made aware of incidents, we feel the need to consider what extra steps we must take to keep students safe in school. We have already amended our personal development programme to include extra sessions at short notice involving our external partners.

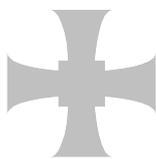
We have spoken with teaching and pastoral staff and it is clear that mobile phones are also causing disruption during lessons, with students using their phones when they should not and some students refusing to hand over phones when they are instructed to do so. This is leading to lost learning for the majority of students who always do their best in lessons. There are times, too, when parents send messages to their child in lessons and sometimes arrive at school with no appointment due to an inaccurate message sent by their child.

We have been regularly reminding students of our policy since the start of the year and have encouraged students to comply, however we are now at a point where there is too much time wasted on this issue when pastoral staff could be supporting students' welfare and teaching staff should be teaching. Therefore, **from September mobile phones will not be permitted in school during the school day**. If there is an emergency, school staff will contact you as usual and you can continue to get urgent messages to your child by phoning the school and speaking to reception staff.

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Ms Jo Hawkin
Headteacher



We realise that some students need a mobile phone for emergencies on their way to and from school and we are therefore proposing an option for students to hand in phones before they come into school and this will be stored until the end of the day. Our new procedure will operate as follows:

- School advice is that students do not bring mobiles to school.
- This includes smart watches, mp3 players, tablets and headphones
- If parents give permission, students may bring a phone to school and hand it in to staff on the way into the building.
- These phones will be kept in a named wallet and will be locked away during the day.
- School is not responsible for the loss or damage to phones while on the premises.
- If a student is found with a phone, whether switched on or not, the phone will be confiscated.
- Refusal to hand over a phone will lead to an appropriate sanction.
- Parents/carers will be informed and with their agreement the phone will be returned for the journey home the first time. If it happens again, parents/carers must come to school to collect the phone from reception and it may not be possible to return the phone on the day it is confiscated.

For students in the sixth form, they will be allowed to use their phones at break and lunch only, unless part of a learning activity directed by their teacher.

If you wish that your child brings their phone to school to be handed in at the school entrance, please confirm by completing the online permission slip by using the link below. If this is not filled in, we will assume that your child will not bring their phone into school.

[Mobile Phone Consent September 2021](#)

We know that this change of policy will not be welcomed by all parents/carers, but we ask for your support. The issues we have witnessed this year require difficult decisions to be made in the interests of student wellbeing, safety, and education.

Yours sincerely

Jo Hawkin
Headteacher