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Dear Parent/Carer

Ormiston Maritime Mobile Phone policy

I wish to invite you to a parent forum to receive your views on students and their mobile phones. Whilst mobile phones have many advantages, research shows the negative side effects. For example:

- Potential interruptions of learning
- Safety issues
- Health impacts, such as poor vision, lack of focus, anxiety, sleep loss, bad posture, and exposure to wrong contents
- Cyberbullying
- Examination malpractice
- Reduction in social skills
- Security issues
- Addiction to smartphone apps and messages
- Mere presence of one's phone consumes attention even when it's not being checked

The current policy is that mobile phones are not to be seen or heard, and if this does happen they are taken and placed in reception for students to collect at the end of the day.

However, there are opportunities where students have still continued to use their mobile phone inappropriately, though they are not allowed to be used on site.

I wish to put forward a proposal that if students do bring a mobile phone into the academy then it is locked away securely for the day and retrieved before students go home. To explain my reasons behind this, I will be holding a parent forum on Monday 8th July at 4pm at the academy. Light refreshments will be provided.

If you can attend please email office@omacademy.co.uk or telephone the academy on 01472 310015 to confirm your attendance.

Yours faithfully

Mrs C Robson
Principal

