

9 September 2025

Dear Family,

Consultation – Mobile Phone and SVSH Policies

Welcome back after the summer holidays. I hope families had a lovely break. I am writing as a follow up to my last newsletter of the last academic year where I let you know we would be looking to make some changes and encourage families to talk to us if they have queries.

Mobile Phone Policy

In 2024 the academy opened a consultation on revising our mobile phone policy in line with changes to government guidance. We paused this consultation as we were making significant changes to the pastoral structures, but feel it is now appropriate to recommence, with a view to changes being implemented after October half term.

The Senior Leadership Team will be available on Wednesday 17 September 2025, from 4.30pm - 6.30pm, if you wish to provide any further feedback before the consultation closes.

Following consultation, we are planning to implement the following:

- There will be no change to expectations regarding student use of mobile phones – phones should not be seen or heard in the academy.
- There will be a change to the process if students are seen with their mobile phone on academy grounds. The phone will still be confiscated by staff, however, phones would then be taken to Reception for families to collect, they will not be returned to the student at the end of the day. Families will be contacted by a member of the Student Support Services team to inform them that they will need to come to the academy to collect the mobile phone.
- There will be a change to the process should a student refuse to comply with staff regarding the confiscation of a phone; this would be escalated to the Student Support Services Team and a 1 hour after school detention would be set for defiance, the phone would still be confiscated by staff and taken to Reception for family to collect at the end of the day.
- There will also be a change to the process if further defiance is demonstrated by the student; this would result in an escalation of the behaviour to the Senior Leadership Team, following which further defiance could result in suspension from the academy.

SVSH (Sexual Violence/Sexual Harassment)

Students, staff and families have made great strides in embedding a positive culture of mutual respect, underpinned by the changes we have made to pastoral care following the launch of Student Support Services in September 2024.

To further consolidate this positive culture and ensure all children, at all times, feel safe in school, we are consulting on a revised behaviour framework to ensure we consistently and robustly deal with any sexual violence or sexual harassment.

This revised framework will mirror our current 3 stage system for challenging discriminatory behaviour. It will place education, support and intervention at the heart of tackling any sexualised behaviour so that students know exactly what is expected behaviour and what is unacceptable, in the academy and wider society.

The academy's Designated Safeguarding Lead (Mr Spark) and Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust's Community Liaison Manager (Mr Hewett) will be offering a consultation evening from 4.30pm – 6.30pm on Wednesday 17 September 2025 to ensure we have input from all stakeholders, ahead of a formal launch of the new system.

We encourage families to attend on the 17 September 2025, as we want to ensure your thoughts and feedback are part of our decision making. If you are unable to attend but would like to contribute and/or ask questions please email info@TCA.shirelandcat.net and a member of SLT will make contact.

Many thanks in anticipation for your support.

Yours sincerely,



Ms N Jones
Principal