

Monday 6th September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Year 5 and Year 6 Walking Home Alone and Mobile Phone Permission

We understand that many parents and carers feel that their children are ready to take responsibility for walking home alone from school when they reach Years 5 and 6. Please may we ask that you consider your child's maturity and independence, distance from school as well as the safety of the route your child will take when making your decision. **If you would like your child to walk home alone this year, please complete and return the permission form below by Monday 12th September.**

No child will be allowed to walk home alone from school without prior consent from a parent or carer. Please note that it is not appropriate for your child to collect younger siblings to walk them home and therefore all children below Years 5 and 6 will need to be collected by an adult aged 16 and over as usual.

With regards to the use of **mobile phones in school**, children in Years 5 and 6 will only be allowed a mobile phone in school if they have requested, and received, permission via the slip attached. Parents should note that the only real reason that the school will authorise mobile phones onsite is if a child makes the journey to and from school without a parent or guardian.

Children in the younger year groups will not be allowed to bring a phone to school, as the walking home alone policy is only in place for Years 5 and 6. All other children are expected to be accompanied to and from school by an adult and as such, there is no need for these children to carry a phone.

If any child is found to be in possession of a mobile phone, which has been brought in without permission, it will be taken, kept in a safe place and only returned to the parent or carer of the child.

Please let us know if you have any questions about the above. We thank you for your support in this matter.

Yours faithfully,



Mr O Phillips
Headteacher



Parent to complete and return the attached form to the School office by **Monday 12th September 2022**

Name of Child: _____

Child's class: _____

Child's Mobile phone number: _____

RE: Walking Home Alone

I _____ (parent name) give permission for my child as detailed above to walk home (or another specified destination) from School alone. I have explained to my child the safety aspects of walking home on their own.

I understand that it is the responsibility of parents, and not the school, once my child has left the school premises.

I understand that in the winter months when it is darker, I will need to collect my child from any after school clubs at 4.15pm.

RE: Mobile Phone Permission Request

I request permission for my child, as detailed above, to bring their mobile phone to school. In giving this permission, I understand and accept that:

- My child must switch off their phone prior to entering the school premises and place the phone in the designated box within their classroom
- My child is not allowed to use their mobile phone on the playground before or after school (if your child needs to contact to you to say they have arrived safely this must be done in the school reception area)
- All phones will be locked in your child's classroom for the day and will be turned off
- Use of the phone on the school premises could result in confiscation and in this case, parents will be requested to come and collect the device from the school
- The school will not accept responsibility for the loss of any phones

Signed: _____

Date: _____