



Walderslade Girls' School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

March 2023

As we approach the Easter holidays, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support with the changes we have implemented at Walderslade Girls' School, and to advise you of some further changes which are planned.

You will be aware that on Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd February Ofsted visited Walderslade Girls' School for a graded inspection. The details of that inspection are due very soon. I will make you aware of the report's findings and the actions the school has taken as a result, as soon as the details are released to me.

During the week commencing Monday 27th March 2023, we will see the implementation of our new electronics policy. I have attached a copy to this letter for your information. Whilst students can bring their mobile devices, headphones, and other electronic devices to school, they must not be seen during the school day. I know that having access to smart devices is essential for some students; some use them for bus ticket information which enables them to travel to and from school and others for medical conditions.

Due to the misuse and inappropriate ways in which some of these devices are being used, and for safeguarding reasons, the parents' forum, with the support of the staff, have agreed to a total ban on mobile technology during the school day. If a student is seen with their mobile phone, the phone will be confiscated. If a student refuses to hand over the device, they will receive a sanction.

Students will still be able to bring their devices into school, but they must not be accessed whilst in school.

Please note that there are only 2 exceptions to this rule.

- 1) Trust provided mobiles, which are clearly marked with a WGS sticker, may be used for taking photographs for our social media sites, which will still keep you in touch with what is happening at the school.
- 2) Students who need to use their phone to monitor their medical conditions. These students have already been identified and will use their phones at set points during the day to monitor medical issues such as diabetes.

Please support the school by reinforcing this policy and the reasons for it with your child/ren.

I am pleased to report that the one-way system which is now in operation has worked very well and will continue. The students have responded positively to this new system and I would like to thank them all for their cooperation with this new initiative.

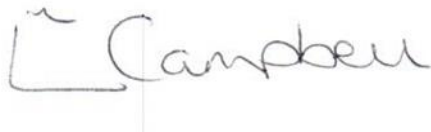


As the end of the term approaches, it is time for us to say goodbye to some colleagues and I wanted to take this opportunity to thank them all for the work they have done at the school and wish them well for the future. The national strikes have highlighted the difficulties faced by those in education and recruitment is more of a challenge for almost all educational establishments in the current climate. However, we continue to reduce our vacancies at WGS, and I would encourage anyone looking for a career change, or a change of school, to look at our vacancies. <https://sflt.org.uk/vacancies/>

Finally, I would like to confirm that I will be remaining at Waldersalde Girls' School until the end of this academic year. I have enjoyed spending time with the young women of this school, who continue to impress me daily. I look forward to driving the significant change the school needs to enable all students to learn in a supportive and productive environment.

Thank you for your continued support and the feedback you have provided over the last few terms. It has been a pleasure to meet so many parents/carers at the options and parents' evenings and on the gate. I look forward to working with you further for the remainder of the academic year.

Yours faithfully



Mrs L Campbell
Headteacher
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