



Beths Grammar School

an 11-18 selective school with academy status

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12 February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

With the Year 11 Trial exams beginning after half term, and the external GCSEs beginning in May, I am getting in contact to reiterate the policies regarding mobile phone and smart devices in exams.

Students must not have a phone or smart device (including smart watches) on them at all during any exam. This includes if the device is completely switched off. The penalties for being found with one of these devices in an exam are severe. At a minimum your son would be disqualified from the paper (resulting in a serious reduction in grade) and at worst he could be disqualified from all subjects taken under that exam board. This is not a school rule, rather a JCQ rule set at a national level.

We are aware that some students are concerned about leaving their phones so we are implementing a new system where students take a token with a number on it which corresponds to a slot in a storage box that their phone is placed in. This will then be under the care of staff for the exam period. Students then return their token to reclaim their phone.

During the Trial Exam period we will be implementing this new system. Your son will be made aware of it during assembly on Thursday 13 February. During the Trial Exams we will be doing spot-checks for phones and if your son is found to have one on him during the exam it will be confiscated. The phone will be placed in an envelope at reception and we ask that a parent or other adult comes to collect it. The paper will be marked and feedback given as normal but the mark will be reported on the March report as if it had been disqualified.

We hope that you will support us in ensuring your son understands the seriousness of these rules and the potential severe implications that violating exam regulations could have.

Yours faithfully,

Mr T Beaney
Assistant Headteacher
Curriculum