



St Peter's

Collegiate Academy

Ref: JH

12 June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Mobile Phone Use, Privacy and Online Safety

We are writing to raise an issue that affects the privacy, wellbeing and safety of our students: the use of mobile phones to take and share photos and videos without consent.

We have noticed an increase in students taking photos or videos of their peers, both during the school day and outside of school hours, and sharing these on social media. While mobile phones are a brilliant way for young people to stay connected, sharing images without permission can quickly lead to embarrassment, distress, social exclusion and online bullying. Even when a photo is taken in good humour, once it has been shared online, control over that image is lost, and the consequences can last a long time.

We would be grateful if you could take some time to speak with your child about digital citizenship and personal boundaries. It's worth reminding them to always ask permission before taking or sharing a photo or video of someone else, and to respect it if someone says no or asks for an image to be deleted. Taking photos anywhere on the school site is a serious breach of privacy and our school rules, and it will be treated very seriously. Encourage your child to think about their digital footprint too; something that feels funny in the moment could cause real harm to a classmate, or reflect poorly on their own character later on. If they see an unkind or inappropriate photo of a peer online, the right thing to do is report it to an adult or the platform, rather than liking, commenting or sharing it further.

As a reminder, our policy is that mobile phones should be switched off and kept in bags during lesson and social times. Any student who breaches privacy boundaries or whose online behaviour disrupts the school environment or harms others will be sanctioned in line with our behaviour policy.

Our aim is simple: to keep St Peter's a safe, kind and focused place for everyone, and we know that working together with families is the best way to achieve this.

Thank you, as always, for your support in reinforcing these values at home. If you have any questions, or would like resources on navigating social media safety with your teenager, please contact our Safeguarding or Pastoral Teams.

Yours faithfully

Mr J Hall
Designated Safeguarding Lead