



Leventhorpe

a business and enterprise academy

29 September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Last week the Government launched the Track and Trace app, to be used on mobile devices to assist the management of the Covid-19 virus at this time of increased spread. This is a welcome addition to the range of protections for the general population. **The app is for people aged 16 and over.**

In terms of the impact of the app on the school policy on use of mobile phones, the guidance states the following:

There is no requirement for settings to change existing policies on the use of mobile phones by students due to their use of the app. Manual contact tracing through NHS Test and Trace will continue to be used when a positive case is identified in an education setting and local health protection teams will continue to support settings if an outbreak is confirmed. The app will complement this process, but is not required for it to work.

In light of this guidance we are not making changes to our mobile phone policy. Students in the sixth form can access their phones in the sixth form areas and when asked to do so in lessons by staff. If they receive a notification via the app, they should report to the medical room at student services and inform staff, who will then take necessary steps. Sixth formers should ensure phones are on 'silent' to avoid phones going off in lessons. All other students should not access their phones during the school day. Their phones should be off, and our usual rules of confiscation will apply if they use their phone during the day. If any Year 11 student becomes aware via the app of a need to isolate when they are not in school, please inform the school as soon as possible and we will take the necessary steps.

Parents who are concerned about the safety implications of students having phones confiscated, should ensure they have conversations about the need for phones to be off during the day to avoid any unnecessary conflict regarding a confiscation.

Thank you for your co-operation with this issue.

Yours faithfully,

Malcolm White
Headteacher