

The Warriner School

Responsible - Respectful – Ready

A member of The Warriner Multi
Academy Trust

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Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

I hope you have had a good week.

As per the group call that was sent to you a few days ago, from Monday 17th January, the isolation period for Covid infection will be five days, reduced from seven. Students and staff self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative on both day 5 and day 6 and do not have a temperature. Students who are still positive on their rapid lateral flow tests must stay in isolation until they have had 2 consecutive negative tests taken on separate days. Hopefully these changes will help the attendance for us all in school and bring some extra support to you all as families struggling with the ongoing impact of the pandemic.

The main reason for today's letter: On Monday 17th January, we launch Yondr at The Warriner School. Students will receive their named pouches during our Morning Registration. As I have previously explained, we are introducing Yondr to:

1. Improve the mental health of our students
2. Reduce online bullying and peer-on-peer abuse amongst our students
3. Increase concentration and achievement in lessons for our students

All classes participated in an interactive session with Yondr at the start of this week. It was wonderful to see students discussing how to maintain a healthy experience with their phones and social media. The students were so mature in the way they responded to the issues that were raised – a real credit to us. To reiterate, there is no significant change to school policy as mobile phones should have always been switched off and not used during the school day. Unlike some other schools, we do not want to ban mobile phones from school because for some families they enhance student safety when travelling to and from school. Yondr makes this possible. In addition, in some lessons, we will unlock pouches if we feel mobile phones can enhance learning.

Key Points:

- Please discuss with your child the importance of locking their phone in their pouch during Morning Registration. Staff will no longer give warnings if a phone is seen outside of a pouch during the school day. In these circumstances phones will be confiscated. If it is the first offence in a school Term, students will collect the phone at the end of the day. If it is the second or more offence, we will ask parents/carers to collect, and the student will not be allowed to have their phone in school for five days.

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- Pouches will be unlocked as students exit their Lesson 5 classroom. This should not delay leaving the classroom promptly, but we will slightly delay the departure of buses for the first few weeks as the system embeds.
- Some students rely on their phones for Apps that control medical support (e.g., Insulin Pumps). In these situations, students will be issued with an exempt card to show if challenged about having their phone out. Please let us know if this applies to your child. We can provide Velcro pouches if they still want one.
- Some students choose not to bring a phone into school. However, spot checks will take place to ensure that this is accurate.
- If you urgently need to contact your child during the school day please contact school via the usual channels (**01295 720777** or **admin.4007@warriner.oxon.sch.uk**). Pouches can be unlocked in seconds.
- Smart Watches should not be brought into school but will be added to the pouch if they are brought in.
- Extra-large pouches can be provided if your child has a particularly large phone.
- Students can decorate their pouch so long as comments/drawings are not offensive.
- Students will need to pay the replacement costs for pouches that are maliciously damaged, lost or contain offensive material. This will be organised through a parent meeting – face to face or virtually.

Thank you for the many messages of support for this new system.

I hope you all have a good weekend.

With very best wishes



Sharon Nicholls
Head of School