



Re-founded 1555

# Ripon Grammar School

*Helping shape the future since 1555*



9 November 2022

## **Year 7 / 8 assembly on the use of mobile devices and internet safety**

Dear Parents/Guardians

The responsible use of mobile devices is an important part of keeping children safe. At Ripon Grammar School we recognise the risks and we strive in school to provide our young people with up to date knowledge on how to use mobile devices responsibly.

On Tuesday 8 November, Year 7 had an assembly on internet safety presented by Sarah Lynch, a former Police Detective, North Yorkshire Police. The presentation covered a wide range of issues which affect students of this age. This included: kindness online, cyberbullying, online gaming, inappropriate messaging as well as how digital footprints affect future employment.

We would appreciate your support in ensuring that your child is not using their mobile device in a risky way. We would like to encourage a discussion between yourself and your child on their use of mobile devices. If you require support, please refer to our E-safety Protocol which offers guidance on the safe use of the internet <https://www.ripongrammar.co.uk/documents/E%20Safety%20Protocol.pdf>

As a school, we would also like to remind you that we have a policy that does not permit mobile phones to be used on site except for the following reasons:

- Phones are allowed on site to enable communication regarding travel arrangements between students and parents, particularly in view of the distances some students travel to school, at lunchtime or at 15:55. To facilitate this, phones may be used by students before/after school and during lunchtime for the purpose of sending/checking messages and in the approved area ONLY - the Main Hall.
- At all other times for contact with parents, permission must be sought from a member of staff; this should take place only in exceptional circumstances and in a discreet area of the school.
- Alternative procedures are in place in the case of illness or other routine matters and should be used instead. Students will not be able to use phones in the medical room.

Headmaster: Mr. Jonathan M. Webb, MA (Cantab).

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- Students should take care when using phones before and after school, particularly when crossing the road; students should be aware that phones can be a distraction and should be used with care. Other electronic devices are not permitted on site without permission. This includes ipods, tablets, laptops, cameras, etc. although there is an exemption for Sixth Form students where they are entitled to use their phones in designated areas and for appropriate uses only.
- Photography and filming is not permitted on school site at any time of the school day (unless prior approval has been sought).
- Students are reminded that all electronic devices are banned from public examinations and infringement of these rules will lead to disqualification from at least the examination being taken and possibly all other examinations taken during the same session (e.g. all GCSE examinations).

Yours sincerely,

**Miss L Anderson**  
**Acting Head of Year 7**

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