



# Churchdown School Academy

ACHIEVING SUCCESS FOR ALL

Winston Road, Churchdown, Gloucester GL3 2RB

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Website: [www.churchdownschool.com](http://www.churchdownschool.com)

Headteacher: Christopher Belli

20<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had another successful year as a school community. The students have each developed academically and socially as a direct result of hard work and high quality teaching. Over the year we have had many events and student achievements of which we can be proud. We have continued to outperform local and national expectations at both GCSE and A level, and it has been especially pleasing to witness our students gain recognition for their efforts in the sporting arena, the arts, literature and STEM.

The foundations of our school are the high standards of student engagement, attendance and discipline. Together we work to ensure the students are prepared for life beyond school as mature, multi-skilled and motivated young people. With this in mind, I would like to remind you of the uniform expectations for September. These are set out in the uniform guide which you can find on the website; a copy will also be emailed to parents before the end of term. Please make sure you are familiarised with the expectations as we wish to avoid potentially difficult situations in September for students whose uniform do not meet the required standard.

With this in mind, from 3<sup>rd</sup> September we are going to change the rules regarding the use of mobile phones at school. You may be aware that schools have been asked and encouraged to have total mobile phone bans in school and a number of secondary schools across the county have already done this.

Technology is undoubtedly a significant part of your child's life. I believe that it is our role to educate the students on how to use technology and its obvious benefits. However, we are increasingly finding that mobile phones are becoming a distraction which gets in the way of learning and in more cases affecting relationships. I understand that smart phones are here for the foreseeable future. However, there is more evidence than not to suggest they are having a negative impact on the students at school. We want to encourage responsibility and independence in our students; therefore, I believe a total ban is not currently required. We are, however, going to allow the students to only access their mobile phones during the social times of break and lunch. During all other periods, including tutor time and lesson changeovers, students are not expected to have their mobile phone, music devices or headphones on show. Such devices are to be turned off and put in lockers or in school bags from 8.35am until the appropriate social times.

In the event that a student is seen with or using their mobile or music device during the 'off time', the phone will be confiscated and given back to the student at the end of the day. Repeat offenders' phones will be returned to parents and the school will consider a total ban for that student.





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Over the past few years I have been overwhelmed with the genuine support from parents who want to see their child and our school continue to thrive. Therefore, I am confident that we will once again receive your total support and look forward to working with you in September.

Thank you for all you have done, for our school and your children, again this year.

Yours faithfully,

Christopher Belli  
Headteacher