

7th June 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Consultation on Portable Digital Devices (including mobile phones and any other device with digital storage capacity)

In order to support the best possible behaviour, maximum focus and concentration on learning and to minimise the misuse of smart phones and other digital devices, Aspire Academy intends to work towards implementing a total ban on the use of such devices by students on Academy premises from September 2017, with a pilot period from 23rd June 2017 to the end of term.

In order to further explore the associated implications of this rule change and to gauge the views of stakeholders, a series of consultations will be held for staff, students and parents, starting from 7th June 2017 and ending 14th June 2017.

As we are committed to achieve the outstanding student outcomes and having read the current Government thinking on the negative impact that smartphones have on behaviour (see link below) we have devised a policy for portable digital devices.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/impact-of-smartphones-on-behaviour-in-lessons-to-be-reviewed>

We are interested in all our stakeholder views and hope that you take part in this consultation.

Please send any consultation responses to **Karen Clancy** on k.clancy@aspire.fcat.org.uk or in writing **FAO Karen Clancy**, Aspire Academy, Blackpool Old Road, Blackpool FY3 7LS by 14th June 2017.

Yours faithfully

Lisa Shuttleworth-Brown

Principal