

Newlands Girls' School

Courage Commitment Compassion

Headteacher: Miss J. Capon



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Dear Parents and Carers

On May 9th, along with 60 headteachers from schools across RBWM, I attended an event which was organised by the influential and parent led Smartphone Free Childhood movement. Some of you may be aware that there is a growing belief amongst parents and educators that we should delay giving smartphones to our young people, and that schools should consider banning them on site altogether. The Smartphone Free Childhood members who spoke were inspirational. However, worryingly, they explained that we are now only starting to understand the detrimental impact that smartphone use is having on young people. As a school, we believe that the research and data simply cannot be ignored.

We are at the beginning of this journey. Over the course of the next academic year, we plan to engage our students, parents and carers in this important discussion, which will lead to change. Before the end of the summer term there will be an information evening, and we will be sending a survey which I hope everyone will respond to.

Together, we can make a huge difference and what is even more powerful, we are looking to create a borough wide response. You will have many questions which we will endeavour to answer along the way, and some of you will no doubt be aware of action other schools, including our primaries, are already taking.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in the summer term and working closely with you all, as we pave the way towards a different digital landscape for our children.

Yours sincerely

Miss Jo Capon
Headteacher



We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

