

Mobile Phone Policy – introduction of Mobile Phone Pouches from September 2026



Effective From: 1st September 2026

Review Date: 1st September 2028

1. Policy Overview

This policy sets out our expectations regarding student mobile phone use during the school day. In line with Department for Education guidance and our commitment to safeguarding and learning, students will **no longer be permitted to use mobile phones at any point while on school premises.**

To support this, we are implementing **Secure Lockable Phone Pouches** for every student.

2. Objectives of this Policy

- Eliminate distraction from learning caused by mobile phones.
- Promote positive behaviour, engagement, and wellbeing.
- Prevent misuse of mobile devices, including bullying, filming, upskirting, and academic dishonesty.
- Create a safer school environment and reduce safeguarding risks.
- Reinforce a calm and focused school culture through consistent rules.

3. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All students during the school day (including breaktimes and transition periods)
- All devices capable of communication (phones, smartwatches, earbuds, etc.)
- All areas of the school site and all off-site, school-organised activities

4. Secure Lockable Phone Pouches – How the System Works

- Each student will be issued a **personally assigned signal-blocking pouch.**
- Students will be given their pouch in school **every day.**
- **At the start of tutor time or line-up/Affirmation (tbc daily),** phones are to be **placed inside and locked** in the pouch under staff supervision.
- The pouch remains on the student's person but **cannot be opened until the end of the school day.**
- In PM form time (3.10-3.20pm), staff will **unlock pouches in-class using unlocking equipment.**
- If a student leaves school early, the pouch will be unlocked by **reception staff.**
- If a pouch is lost or damaged, a **temporary pouch** will be issued, and parents will be expected to replace the pouch (cost attached). Usage will be monitored daily.
- If a student is late to school, an alternative pouch will be issued (RED and numbered). This pouch will be unlocked at the end of the day at the **same day detention**, not by the student's form tutor.
- Any students who require their mobile phone to monitor sugar levels will be issued with a specially designed pouch by the pastoral team in liaison with parents.

5. Expectations of Students

- Keep your pouch and phone secure and undamaged in your school bag.
- Follow all staff instructions regarding pouch use.
- Do not bring or use any item intended to bypass the system (e.g. second phone, magnets, smartwatches)
- Do not damage or deface the pouch – this is treated as deliberate misconduct and sanctions will follow, including the expectation that the pouch will be replaced and paid for by parents/carers.

6. Expectations of Staff

- **Enforce pouch use during tutor time,** including visual checks and supervised locking.

- Conduct **spot checks** during the day if misuse is suspected.
- **Unlock pouches during PM form time/registration.**
- **Report damage, missing pouches, or misuse** to SLT (Mr Jackson – KS4 or Mrs Hancox – KS3)
- Keep your unlock station secure and inaccessible to students.

7. Expectations of Parents and Carers

- Support the school policy on mobile phones.
- Reinforce the message that **phones must not be used during the school day.**
- Accept that any damage to a pouch will be chargeable.
- Use the **school reception as the point of contact** in emergencies – students are not contactable during the day.

8. Breaches of Policy – Sanctions

Breach Type	Sanction
Phone not placed in pouch	Internal Isolation until rule is followed + After School Detention. Parents notified.
Attempting to cheat system (e.g. 2nd phone, unlock tools)	Internal Isolation + After School Detention. Parents notified.
Vandalism or damage to pouch	Internal Isolation + parental charge + After School Detention.
Persistent non-compliance	Escalating sanctions including potential suspension

9. Emergencies

In an emergency, parents must contact school reception. If a student requires urgent contact with home, staff will facilitate this through appropriate channels.

10. Exceptions

Any required exceptions (e.g. for medical or SEN reasons) must be agreed in writing with the **SENCO**. These will be rare and handled discreetly.

11. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be monitored by the Senior Leadership Team and reviewed annually or in response to updated DfE guidance.