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7<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Re: Mobile Phones in School**

I am writing to remind you of our expectations regarding mobile phone use in school and to seek your continued support in reinforcing these with your child.

As you may be aware, the government has recently strengthened its position on mobile phones in schools, making expectations around their restriction increasingly explicit and moving towards this becoming a formal duty for schools. As a result, all schools are expected to implement and uphold clear, robust policies to minimise disruption and safeguard students' learning.

Many schools locally and nationally have already adopted significantly more stringent approaches. These include banning smartphones entirely, conducting daily searches on arrival, and, in some cases, using metal detectors to ensure devices are not brought onto site. While we do not wish to take such extreme measures, it is important that we align with national expectations and maintain a strong, consistent approach.

Our current policy remains "No See, No Hear" from gate to gate. This means that mobile phones must be switched off and kept in bags at all times, not carried on students' person. This rule has been in place for several months and has been communicated clearly and consistently to all students.

However, we are still seeing a significant number of students not meeting these expectations. This is disappointing, particularly given the clarity of our messaging.

As a result, sanctions for persistent misuse of mobile phones will be serious and in line with government expectations. These are designed to ensure that all students can learn in a focused and disruption-free environment.

As per our [Behaviour Policy](#), phones (plus Air Pods and headphones) will be confiscated, for the rest of the day, if they are seen or heard in school and the following sanctions will apply:



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- **First confiscation:** 30-minute after-school reflection.
- **Second confiscation:** Full day in the Reflection Room until 4:00pm, accompanied by a parent/carer meeting.
- **Third or subsequent confiscation:** Off-site reflection at another secondary school or a fixed-term suspension, accompanied by a parent/carer meeting.

If a student refuses to hand over a mobile phone when requested by a member of staff, this will be treated as **defiance** and will result in a more serious sanction, such as suspension or off-site reflection.

I strongly encourage you to discuss this with your child and ensure they fully understand both the expectations and the consequences of not meeting them. It is important that they recognise this is not a rule that will change - in fact, it is likely that expectations will become stricter over time.

If your child needs a phone for safety when travelling to and from school, we recommend, where possible, the use of a non-smartphone device.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support in helping us maintain high standards and a positive learning environment for all students.

Kind regards,



Emma Thurston  
Headteacher