



5th June 2026

Parent Information Evening: Phone Policy Update for September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this correspondence finds you well.

Firstly, thank you to all of the parents and carers who recently took the time to complete our survey seeking feedback on how we may move towards becoming a phone-free school.

Over time, we have become more concerned about the amount of time young people are spending on their phones. Today's young people face challenges that are vastly different from those of previous generations. Their world is shaped by smartphones, social media, memes, and influencers – forces that shape their identities, interactions, and even their mental wellbeing. Our concerns in school are mirrored across the country and you will be aware of the government's commitment to safeguarding young people and ensuring that all schools become genuinely phone free. Please click on the link below to the BBC article explaining the government's rationale and approach:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c5y7vd6gpgq1o>

In school, we are concerned about phone use during the school day. We have had a long-standing policy of phones being 'off and in the bag' in the school building. However, it is clear from staff, parent and student feedback that devices are still being accessed during the school day. This leads to distraction from learning and potential safeguarding issues.

Schools have a responsibility to do all we can to reduce phone use in school. Firstly, reducing phone use during lessons helps students stay focused and improves learning. Second, limiting distractions promotes stronger friendships and emotional wellbeing. Thirdly, it creates a safer space for everyone by reducing the risk of online harm, such as bullying or misuse of images. We want our students to be fully present, and a clear and consistent approach to phones will help make that possible.

To support this change, we will be updating our behaviour and mobile phone policy from September, which will effectively eliminate phone use for students in Year 7-11. Students will still be able to use and access phones offsite on the journey to and from school.

We will be hosting an Information Evening for parents on **Thursday 25th June at 5.30pm** in the theatre to outline the rationale and organisation of the phone pouch system.

To give us an idea of expected numbers on the evening please can I politely request that you use the link below to confirm your attendance:

<https://forms.gle/GNBpN4CvSjwReHYJA>

Please note, we will also cover the same information for students currently in Year 6 during their Parent Information Evening on Thursday 2nd July.

Best wishes,

Ms. K. Smith
Headteacher