

STUDENT PHONE POLICY & GUIDELINES

As we strive to provide the most effective learning environment, we are implementing a phone-free policy based on the Yondr model. This decision is rooted in a desire to help students develop a healthier and more intentional relationship with technology and to allow students to focus on their learning free from the distractions and pressures that mobile phones present.

Our policy is built on a few core principles:

Valuing Time: We want students to actively use their time in school for learning and engagement, rather than passively spending it on their devices.

Encouraging Respectful Behavior: By creating a clear, device-free zone, we help students learn appropriate social etiquette and respectful behavior in all settings, fostering deeper, in-person interactions.

Protecting Focus: Phone-free spaces are crucial for nurturing creativity and concentration. These uninterrupted environments allow students to be fully present and engaged without digital distractions.

Developing Critical Thinking: This policy encourages students to think critically about the role of technology in their lives. They will learn to question their dependence on digital devices and understand when technology is a tool versus a distraction.

We believe that by creating this intentional space, we are not just removing a distraction, but equipping our students with the skills they need to navigate an increasingly connected world with purpose and presence.

DAILY PROCESS

Beginning of the Day

School Entrance Model

As students arrive to school they will:

- 1) Turn their phone off.
- 2) Place their phone inside a Yondr Pouch provided by staff and secure it in front of school staff.
- 3) Store the pouch in their bag for the day.

End of the Day

Students will:

- 1) Open the Pouch at one of the designated points
- 2) Remove their phone
- 3) Hand the pouch to staff for checking

Late Starters or Early Leavers

Students arriving late or leaving early will pouch / unpouch their phones in the student reception. Should students be attending a trip or sports club a mobile unit will be allocated to staff present so that they can unlock the pouches.

VIOLATIONS

Pouches will be checked to make sure they have not been damaged

Pouch Damage or Lost Pouch

If a student damages or loses their Pouch, we will collect the phone and call home for a Parent Pickup and a 30 minute detention will also be issued to the child. Damaged pouches will be billed to parents at a cost of £25

Examples of damage:

- Ripped fabric
- Cut
- Torn
- Bent/cut pin
- Signs of force to black button on flap
- Damage to the black ball
- Pouch opens without unlocking station

Phone seen during School

If a student is found in possession of a phone outside a Yondr pouch, the phone will be confiscated, and an after school detention will be issued. Parents will need to collect the phone after school.

Unlocking Stations

If a student is found in possession of a Yondr unlocking station, or a similar strength magnet used to unlock the pouches, this will be considered a serious offence, and could lead to a suspension.

Accidental Damage

Notify staff immediately explaining what happened. If any damage is spotted at a pouch check it will be considered intentional unless the student has raised it previously.