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Headteacher: Chris Evans

Dear Parent/Carer,

As part of our commitment to safeguarding and promoting a focused learning environment, we introduced an updated Mobile Phone Policy in September 2025. This supported our student's wellbeing, reduced distractions, and helped address online behaviour concerns.

Key points of the policy include:

- Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9: Smartphones are not allowed. Only 'dumb' phones (calls/texts only) are permitted, selected from the approved list on [smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk](http://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk).

**We suggest the first phones only as advised on [smartphonefreechildhood.org](http://smartphonefreechildhood.org). If parents wish to track their child, trackers are available and suggested on the same website, under 'Bluetooth trackers' or 'gps trackers'**

- Year 10 and above: Students may bring smartphones but must keep them switched off and in their bags during the school day. No use is permitted during break, lunch, or lessons unless allowed by a teacher.

- Boarding students must follow the same rules, with additional limits on usage during evenings and overnight.

We will continue to educate students on digital safety and responsible phone use through PSHE lessons, tutor sessions, and assemblies.

If students are found using phones against the policy, the phone will be confiscated and sanctions applied. We kindly ask that all contact during the school day goes through the main office or boarding house reception.

If your child requires phone access for medical or special educational needs, please contact the school to discuss an agreed plan.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we work together to build a safer and more focused school environment.

Yours sincerely,

Lizzie Ayres

Deputy Headteacher

# Mobile Phone Policy – What You Need to Know

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## **Year 7 & Year 8 & Year 9 from September 2026**

No smartphones allowed. You may bring a dumb phone (calls/texts only) – approved models only.

## **Year 10+**

Smartphones allowed BUT must stay off and in bags all day. No use at break, lunch, or lessons.

## **Boarders**

Same rules apply in houses. Year 10+ can use phones after school with limits (e.g. no phones after lights out).

## **Online Safety**

You'll learn about cyberbullying, screen time, and digital habits in PSHE, tutor time, and assemblies.

## **Break the Rules?**

1st time = parents collect it. 2nd = detention. More = further consequences.

## **Contacting Home**

Use school office/boarding house. No phone use during the school day.