Mobile Phone Policy Addendum (Sept 2026) added to Behaviour Policy

Background

This interim addendum reflects the school's consideration of the requirements of Section 36 of the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026, which requires schools to have regard to the Department for Education's guidance on mobile phones in schools.

This addendum provides information about our expectations during the interim period before we move to phone pouches.

Expectations

- Students may bring a mobile phone to school where parents or carers consider this necessary, for example to support travel to and from school.
- Mobile phones, smart watches and any other personal device capable of communication, internet access, photography or recording must be switched off before students enter the school site.
- These devices must remain switched off before students pass through the green gates and out of sight in students' bags throughout the school day.
- These devices must not be accessed or used at any time during the school day. This includes before registration, between lessons, at breaktime, lunchtime and whilst moving around the school site.
- Students may only switch on and use these devices at the end of the school day once they have reached a green gate, unless specifically authorised by a member of staff.
- The same expectations apply during educational visits, sporting fixtures and all other school activities organised by the school unless a member of staff has expressly authorised the use of a device for a specific educational or operational purpose.

Breaches of the Policy

Any device covered by this policy that is seen, heard or used without permission during the school day, or whilst participating in school activities organised by the school, will be confiscated and the following sanctions applied. These expectations and sanctions are displayed in all classrooms.

Immediate expectation

- The device is handed over without argument.
- Refusal to hand over the device will result in daily hand-in at Reception for one week.
- Refusal to comply with daily hand-in will result in time in Reflection.

The stages below reset at the end of Terms 2, 4 and 6.

Stage 1

- Device collected by a parent/carer or returned to the student following completion of a 90-minute SLT detention.
- 90-minute SLT detention after school.
- Head of Year or Pastoral Assistant contacts parent/carer to confirm expectations.

Stage 2

- Device collected by a parent/carer only.
- Daily hand-in at Reception for one week.

Further incidents (after Stage 2)

- Device collected from school by a parent/carer.
- Longer period of daily hand-in at Reception (e.g. two to four weeks).
- Student may be prohibited from bringing a mobile phone to school for a specified period.