



LITTLE ILFORD SCHOOL

COURAGE • COMMITMENT • COMPASSION

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Headteacher:
Andrew Finn

July 8, 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you about an important update to our school's mobile phone policy, which will come into effect from September. At Little Ilford School, we continually review our practices to ensure the best possible learning environment and well-being for all our students.

Current Policy: Students in all year groups are currently permitted to bring mobile phones or smartwatches to school. These devices must be handed in at the start of the school day and collected at the end of the day.

New Policy for Incoming Year 7 Students (September): From September, our new Year 7 students will be subject to a revised mobile phone policy. These students will only be permitted to bring 'brick phones' to school. These devices are designed solely for making calls and sending text messages and do not have internet access or advanced features. We have already communicated this specific change directly to our incoming Year 7 students during their induction.

A Phased Approach to a Smartphone-Free Environment: This new policy for Year 7 marks the beginning of a phased transition towards Little Ilford School becoming a smartphone-free environment. Over the next five years, this policy will evolve in tandem with our students, meaning that as our current Year 7 students progress through the school, the 'brick phone' policy will be applied to their year group, eventually encompassing all year groups. We aim to gradually transition to a school where students are not allowed to bring smartphones onto the premises.

We understand that many parents may have recently invested in smartphones for their children, and we want to be mindful of this. The decision to implement this policy in a staggered manner over five years is precisely to allow families ample time to adapt and to mitigate any immediate financial burden on the families of our current students.

This measured approach will allow us to foster an even more focused and engaging learning atmosphere, reduce distractions, and promote healthier social interactions among students during school hours.

We appreciate your understanding and support as we implement this significant change. Should you have any questions regarding this new policy, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Finn