

13<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Introduction of secure mobile phone pouches**

We will be making our Academy a phone-free space to improve teaching, safeguarding and learning using a secure lockable phone pouch system. This is in line with the latest Department for Education guidelines which make clear schools must be phone free. We have informed the students via assemblies today.

These systems have been implemented in thousands of schools across many countries to facilitate an engaged and safer learning environment. Local schools to us have successfully implemented the same systems and we are confident the secure lockable phone pouches will have a positive impact here as well.

We recognise that mobile phones can be a fantastic tool, however, learning, safeguarding and social behaviour improve drastically when students are fully engaged with their teachers and classmates.

We plan to use a simple, secure pouch that stores a phone. Every student will secure their phone in a secure pouch when they arrive at school. Students will maintain possession of their phones but will not use them until their pouches are opened at the end of the school day. Students are required to bring their phone pouch to and from school each day and are responsible for their pouch at all times. This is a significant change and one which I know all parents and carers will support us with.

A recent survey of over 900 schools measured the effects of creating phone-free educational environments. These schools achieved notable progress in multiple areas:

- 65% of schools saw an improvement in academic performance
- 74% of schools saw an improvement in student behaviour
- 83% of schools saw an improvement in student engagement in the classroom
- 86% of schools saw a positive impact on student safety and wellness

Attached to this letter are a range of anticipated 'Frequently Asked Questions', which we hope will answer most of the questions that you may have at this point.

In an effort to best serve your child, we appreciate your full support as we implement this change.

We are currently planning the launch and will confirm the start date soon, which is likely to be after Year 11 finish their exams.

Yours sincerely



Mark Boughey  
Principal