



THE WESTLEIGH SCHOOL
Aspiring & Achieving Together



Mobile Phone Policy

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Approved by:	Academy Council
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1.0 Policy

1.1 Purpose of the Policy

This updated policy forms part of the Behaviour policy.

The policy has been updated following guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) dated 19 February 2024(updated 29th June 2026) regarding creating a mobile phone-free school environment. This becomes law from 1st September 2026.

Mobile phones in schools - GOV.UK

The purpose of this policy is to keep pupils safe during the school day. It has been updated in response to increasing concerns around:

The use of social media

Inappropriate use of mobile phones

The impact of mobile devices on pupil safety and wellbeing

1.2 Mobile Phone Expectations

Pupils are required to place their mobile phone into the designated phone safe upon entering their form room.

Phones will be returned:

At the end of the school day when pupils leave their form room.

At the end of an after-school detention, if applicable.

1.3 Breach of the Policy

If a pupil is seen using or carrying a mobile phone during the school day:

The phone will be confiscated

The pupil will receive a serious sanction

Confiscated phones must be collected by a parent/carers from the main reception.

Phones will not be returned directly to pupils if they have breached the behaviour policy in relation to mobile phones.

1.4 Searching and Safeguarding

The school reserves the statutory right to search pupils where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that they may have a prohibited item in their possession.

This is to safeguard the welfare of pupils and staff.

The school may also use electronic detection devices ("wands") to identify mobile phones being carried during the school day.

1.5 Use of Mobile Phones for Learning

Pupils are not required to use a mobile phone to complete classwork or homework whilst in school.

1.6 Parent/Carer Support

Expectations of Parents and Carers

Reinforce the expectations about mobile phone use during the school day

Use the school reception as the point of contact - students are not contactable during the day

The school advises parents/carers to monitor their child's use of mobile devices and social media.

Parents/carers are encouraged to:

Use parental supervision settings

Restrict access to inappropriate content

Regularly discuss online safety with their child

2.1 Exceptions to the Policy

Exceptions to the mobile phone rules may be made in specific circumstances, including:

Medical reasons (for example, pupils managing diabetes)

Certain residential trips.

Any exceptions will be agreed at the discretion of the Headteacher and in consultation with parents/carers.