

Boston High School – Mobile Phone Policy: Parent Summary

“Never Seen, Never Heard”

Why We Have This Policy

At Boston High School, we understand that mobile phones and smart devices are part of everyday life and support safety when travelling to and from school. However, they can also contribute to bullying, disrupt learning, and negatively impact wellbeing.

To ensure a calm, safe, and focused learning environment, the school follows a “**Never Seen, Never Heard**” approach in line with the **DfE Mobile Phones in Schools Guidance (February 2026)**.

Key Rules for KS3 & KS4 (Years 7–11)

- Students are **discouraged** from bringing phones or smart devices to school.
 - If in school, devices must be **switched off, out of sight, and never used** between **8:40am–3:25 pm**.
 - If a student needs to contact home, they must use the **school office**.
 - Parents should only contact school with **urgent** messages for their child; students may check personal messages **after school**.
 - The school accepts **no responsibility** for loss, theft, or damage at any time.
 - If a phone is seen, heard, or used inappropriately, it will be **confiscated**.
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Key Rules for Sixth Form (KS5)

Sixth Form students act as role models and therefore have limited additional privileges:

- Phones **must not** be used around the site between lessons, or in the canteen.
 - Use is allowed:
 - In class **only when instructed** by the teacher.
 - In **Sixth Form common rooms** and designated study areas.
 - During supervised study for appropriate learning activities.
 - As with other students, devices are brought to school **at the student’s own risk**.
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Sanctions

1. **First Offence:** Phone confiscated; student collects it at **the end of the school day from the main office**. Parents notified via Edulink.10 behaviour points
2. **Second Offence:** Phone confiscated; student collects it at **the end of the school day from the Headteacher. Headteacher conversation**. Parents notified via Edulink.15 behaviour points
3. **Third Offence:** Phone confiscated. Parents/carers collect mobile phone at the end of day. 20 behaviour points
4. **Repeated Offences:** Escalation using the **LCC Behaviour Ladder**. Appropriate sanctions applied (e.g internal suspension)

Exemption: Allowed only for **documented health reasons** and noted on the student's care plan which would result in a **Medical Card** being issued

Phones are **not permitted** at any **after-school clubs**, in line with the above.

Searching Pupils

Authorised staff have the legal right to **search students or belongings** if they suspect possession of prohibited items, including mobile phones. [[Mobile Phone Policy](#) | [Word](#)]

Expectations for Staff, Parents & Visitors

Staff

- Must not use personal phones when pupils are present.
- Personal phones may only be used during **non-contact time** and **away from students**.
- Special permission may be granted for specific school roles and emergencies (e.g., sick dependants).
- Staff may never take photos or recordings of students on personal devices.

Parents, Volunteers & Visitors

- Must follow staff rules when on site during school hours.
 - Must not photograph or record pupils (unless it is their own child and permission is given).
 - Should always contact pupils via the **school office**, not personal devices.
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Overall Message

We aim to create a **safe, distraction-free environment** that supports pupils' wellbeing, learning, and positive relationships. The cooperation of all parents, students and staff is essential to making this policy effective and consistent.