



MOBILE PHONE POLICY

All students who wish to bring a mobile phone into school must abide by the following:

Any mobile phone must be switched off and in school bags at all times whilst students are on the school site. Devices seen, or heard (including those in pockets), will be confiscated. The device will then need to be collected by a parent or carer (we will not be giving it back to the student).

The school policy has also outlined that smart watches, as well as any other related electronic device e.g. headphones, meta glasses etc, are banned from school site. These will be confiscated in the same manner.

As a consequence of the updated Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026 guidance paragraph 170* mobile phones and personal headphones (of any type) **cannot be used, in school, during the school day**. This is further reiterated by the Secretary of State for Education, in January 2026, in her correspondence with all schools**.

Note – we understand that a very small number of students use their devices to monitor their health conditions (these students will be permitted agreed access to their devices as required following a scheduled meeting with the relevant Pastoral Team).

- 6th Formers are allowed to use the named devices only within the 6th Form building.
- If a mobile phone, smart watch or headphones are seen by staff they will be confiscated **without warning**. This policy will be rigorously enforced by staff.
- Confiscated items will be placed in the school safe in Student Support. They will then be taken to Main Reception, at the end of the day, for collection by the parent or carer. Devices will not be returned to the student.
- If a student does not comply with any member of staff's instructions they will face further sanction in line with the behaviour policy.
- If a student has their mobile phone or headphones confiscated on multiple occasions, they may be banned from bringing these items onto the school site for the remainder of the term.
- Students found abusing the use of a phone, for example making inappropriate calls or videoing/recording others, will be sanctioned and banned from bringing a mobile phone into school.
- We take the welfare of our students very seriously. If for example they are unwell or need to be dealt with by a member of staff regarding other issues, parents and carers will be contacted directly by the school as required. **Students must not directly contact parents for matters involving illness or discipline.**
- The Headteacher's decision on all matters relating to the mobile phone protocol is final.

These rules apply at all times when on the school site.

By choosing The Kimberley School for your child's secondary education you have automatically agreed to follow all related policies.



***Paragraph 170 in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026:**

All schools should be mobile phone-free environments by default; anything other than this should be by exception only. Statutory guidance on Mobile phones in schools is clear that the department expects schools to implement a policy whereby pupils do not have access to their mobile phone throughout the school day including during lessons, the time between lessons, breaktimes and lunchtime. There are a number of ways in which schools can ensure that they are mobile phone-free, and it is for headteachers to decide how best to achieve this within their own unique contexts.

****DfE Statutory Guidance – Mobile Phones in School (updated June 2026)**

All schools should be mobile phone-free environments by default; anything other than this should be by exception only.

All schools must have a behaviour policy that is aligned with the school's legal duties and standards relating to the welfare of children. This is essential in establishing and maintaining high standards of behaviour ensuring that the school is a calm and safe environment for all pupils and staff. As part of this policy, schools should develop a mobile phone policy that prohibits the use of mobile phones and other smart technology with similar functionality to mobile phones (for example, the ability to send and/or receive notifications or messages via mobile phone networks or the ability to record audio and/or video) throughout the school day, including during lessons, the time between lessons, breaktimes and lunchtime.

The Department for Education (DfE) expects schools to implement a policy whereby pupils do not have access to their mobile phone throughout the school day including during lessons, the time between lessons, breaktimes and lunchtime.

A school's policy on prohibiting the use of mobile phones can be included within the school's behaviour policy or be its own standalone document. The policy should be accessible, aligned with the school's culture, consistent and straightforward to follow. Effective implementation of the policy should ensure all pupils and parents understand and meet the expectations of behaviour relating to mobile phones.

There are a number of ways in which schools can ensure that they are mobile phone-free, and it is for headteachers to decide how best to achieve this within their own unique contexts.

*****Section 36 of the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026:**

Under Section 36 of the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026, state-funded schools in England are legally required by the government to enforce a phone-free environment throughout the school day.