



Policy title	Mobile phone and devices policy
Last amendment date	April 2026
Approved by	KDHS Governors
Next review date	September 2026

1. **POLICY STATEMENT AND RATIONALE**

The King David High School is committed to maintaining a phone-free learning environment that safeguards pupils' wellbeing, mental health, and academic achievement. In accordance with the Department for Education's guidance on mobile phones in schools, the school operates as a mobile phone-free environment by default in the school building at all times for pupils.

A phone-free environment is defined as one in which mobile phones and similar electronic devices are prohibited from. In King David High School this includes

- All school buildings
- Before and after school
- Time between lessons
- Break time and lunchtime
- All extracurricular activities
- Detentions
- Parents' evenings and school events.

If a pupil is in an after-school detention- the detention lead staff will unlock pouches at the end of the detention.

The school utilises Yondr pouches as a secure storage solution, enabling pupils to have devices on site for travel purposes whilst preventing access during school hours

2. **POLICY OBJECTIVES**

- Establish and maintain a safe, productive, and distraction-free learning environment
- Safeguard pupils and staff from potential distraction, misuse, or safeguarding risks associated with mobile phone use
- Communicate clear expectations regarding mobile phone use on school premises
- Outline the school's approach to enforcement, including search procedures

3. **SCOPE**

This policy applies to all pupils in Years 7 to 11. Separate provisions apply to Sixth Form students as detailed in Section 8.

4. **PROHIBITED DEVICES**

The following electronic devices are prohibited from use during the school day:

Mobile phones
 Smart watches
 Headphones and earphones
 Non-learning iPads/tablets
 Music players
 Handheld gaming systems (e.g., Nintendo Switch)



Any device capable of taking photographs, recording sound or video, sharing, searching, storing, or receiving information

5. YONDR POUCH SYSTEM

5.1 Operation

Each pupil is assigned a personal Yondr pouch once this has been purchased on Parent Pay
Pupils must secure their mobile phone in their Yondr pouch upon arrival at school
Pupils maintain possession of their secured phone throughout the school day
Pouches may only be unlocked at the end of the school day
Pupils must bring their Yondr pouch to and from school daily

5.2 Pupil Responsibilities

Pupils are responsible for their Yondr pouch at all times
Mobile phones must be switched off before being secured in the pouch
Pupils must not attempt to open or damage their Yondr pouch during the school day

5.3 Forgotten Pouches

Pupils who have forgotten their Yondr pouch must surrender their mobile phone to the school office immediately upon arrival. This will not result in a sanction on the first occasion. However, the office staff will monitor frequency, and parents will be required to purchase a replacement pouch if repeated instances indicate loss or damage.

6. SEARCH PROCEDURES

6.1 Legal Basis

Staff have the power to search for prohibited items including knives and weapons, alcohol, illegal drugs, stolen items, tobacco and cigarette papers, fireworks, pornographic images, and any article that has been or is likely to be used to commit an offence, cause personal injury or damage to property Use of Reasonable Force Advice. Mobile phones may constitute prohibited items where they are being used in breach of school policy or for safeguarding concerns.

6.2 Search Powers

Under the direction of the Headteacher, authorised staff members may search a pupil's belongings, including their person, if there is reasonable belief that:

- A mobile phone or prohibited device is being concealed
- The device contains indecent images
- The device is being, or has been, used to commit an offence or cause personal injury
- The device poses a safeguarding risk

6.3 Use of Metal Detectors

The school reserves the right to use handheld metal detectors to search pupils for mobile phones and other prohibited electronic devices where there is reasonable suspicion that such devices are being concealed, this includes phones out of pouches or open pouches.

Metal detector searches may be conducted:

- As part of routine spot checks at entry points to the school
- Where staff have reasonable grounds to suspect a pupil is concealing a prohibited device
- Following reports or concerns regarding device misuse
- As part of investigations into breaches of this policy



6.4 Search Authorisation and Conduct

- All searches must be authorised by the Headteacher or the Designated Safeguarding Lead (as a delegated power)
- Searches will be conducted by staff of the same sex as the pupil, where reasonably practicable
- A witness (also a staff member) will be present during searches, where reasonably practicable
- Searches will be conducted with due regard for the pupil's dignity and privacy

6.5 Seizure and Retention

Where a prohibited device is discovered during a search:

- The device will be confiscated immediately
- The device will be securely stored in the school office
- The device will only be returned to a parent/carer, not to the pupil*
- The incident will be recorded and appropriate sanctions applied

7. SANCTIONS AND ENFORCEMENT

7.1 Sanctions Table

Offence	Sanction and follow up procedures.	Monitored by
Forgetting a Yondr pouch	Pupil must surrender phone to office immediately. Repeated instances will require parents to purchase replacement pouch via ParentPay.	Office staff and Head of Year.
Mobile phone or prohibited device visible or in use; Open Yondr pouch detected during spot checks or searches	Device confiscated immediately and surrendered to school office. Parents contacted to collect device * After-school detention issued (C4 sanction). Yondr pouch inspected for damage or tampering. Replacement pouch must be purchased via ParentPay if required.	Office staff and Head of Year.
Refusal to surrender device or comply with search	Escalation to senior leadership. Parents contacted immediately. Extended detention or suspension may be considered depending on circumstances.	Senior Leadership Team
Serious misuse (e.g., photography, recording, cyberbullying, safeguarding concerns)	Immediate confiscation. Investigation conducted. Sanctions may include extended detention, suspension, or requirement to surrender phone daily. Police involvement where appropriate	Designated Safeguarding Lead and Senior Leadership Team

*If a parents or carer is unable to collect the device, they may arrange for another adult (not a sixth form student) to collect the phone. This information must be communicated to the office staff prior to collection via e-mail or phone stating who will be collecting the phone.

7.2 Repeated Offences

Pupils who repeatedly breach this policy may be required to surrender their mobile phone to the school office at the start of each school day for a specified period.

7.3 Behaviour Outside School



Poor behaviour involving mobile phones that occurs on school transport or in the immediate vicinity of the school gates (including taking images or recordings) will be addressed under the school's behaviour policy and may result in sanctions including the requirement to surrender devices daily.

8. SIXTH FORM PROVISIONS

Sixth Form students are permitted to use mobile phones in designated areas only:

- Use is permitted in the Sixth Form library, common room and study rooms for study purposes
- Use is strictly prohibited during lessons (unless specifically instructed by a teacher)
- Use is prohibited in corridors and other communal school areas
- Students must not take photographs or videos of themselves, other students, or staff at any time on school premises
- Breaches of these provisions will result in confiscation and sanctions as outlined in Section 7.

9. EXAMINATIONS

All pupils must adhere to Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) regulations regarding mobile phones (and other banned items) during examinations. These regulations will be clearly communicated to pupils. Failure to comply may result in disqualification from the examination.

10. COMMUNICATION WITH HOME

10.1 Pupil-Initiated Contact

Pupils requiring to contact home during the school day must use the school office telephone.

10.2 Parent-Initiated Contact

Parents/carers requiring to contact their child during the school day should telephone the school office. Messages will be relayed promptly.

11. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES AND EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions to this policy for medical or special educational needs will be considered by the Assistant Headteacher on a case-by-case basis. Any approved exceptions will be documented and reviewed regularly.

12. LIABILITY

The King David High School accepts no responsibility for mobile phones or electronic devices that are lost, damaged, or stolen on school premises, during school transport, on school visits or trips, or while pupils are travelling to and from school. Pupils bring devices onto school premises entirely at their own risk.

13. POLICY REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner if required by changes in legislation or DfE guidance.