

Mobile Phone Policy

Applemore College 2026-7

1.1 Purpose of the Policy

This policy has been updated following guidance from the Department for Education -29th June 2026 -regarding creating a mobile phone free school environment.

This becomes law from **1st September 2026.**

[Mobile phones in schools - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/mobile-phones-in-schools)

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 lockers upon entering their tutor room.

Phones can then be collected at the end of the school day when pupils leave their tutor room.

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 an appropriate after school sanction

Confiscated phones must be collected only 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.

Policy Originator:

Clare Williams

Approved by:

Governing Body

Date of Approval:

July 2026

Last review Date:

N/A

Next review date:

July 2027

Audience:

All

This is to safeguard the welfare of pupils and staff. During the school day, mobile phones will be seen as a prohibited item.

1.5 Use of Mobile Phones for Learning

Pupils are not required to use a mobile phone to complete any 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 unless via reception.

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

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.