



Bosworth
Independent
School

Mobile Phone & Smart Technology Policy

Date of Policy	April 2025
Next Review Date	August 2026
Lead for Review	Assistant Head Pastoral

Also see: Behaviour Policy, Safeguarding Policy, Student Code of Conduct and AUIT agreement

1. Introduction:

This school is a **mobile phone-free environment** by default. To maintain a calm, safe, and focused learning environment, the use of mobile phones and similar smart technology (smart phones) is prohibited throughout the school day. This is also in keeping with recent guidance from GOV.UK [Mobile phones in schools - GOV.UK](#)

2. Prohibited Devices

This policy applies to mobile phones and any "smart" technology with similar functionality, including but not limited to:

- Devices capable of sending/receiving notifications or messages via mobile networks.
- Devices capable of recording audio or video.
- Smartwatches with cellular or messaging capabilities.

3. Expectations During the School Day

The prohibition is in effect from the moment a pupil enters the school premises at 8.30am until the end of the formal school day. This includes:

- All lessons and transition times between classrooms/ buildings.
- Breaktimes and lunchtimes.
- School-led extracurricular activities on site.

Requirement: All devices must be switched off and stored according to school-specific storage procedures - in bags.

Exceptions:

- Due to the fact we are a boarding school, we understand that students may need to contact family in keeping with their home time zones. For this reason, we have included a 30-minute lunch time window (13:30-14:00) when phones will be allowed to contact home in the Newton Café seating areas and the seating/booth area of the First Floor of Bos Hall only.
- Students may need to use phones to **pay for refreshments** in the café and at vending machines; they should be permitted but the staff on cafe duty will supervise by the cashier till and must ensure they are put away after payment.
- Please note: 'Reasonable adjustments should be made for students that need them' – medical reasons and SEND/ EFL on exceptional occasions and within the existing school policies.

4. Sixth Form Provisions

Recognising the transition to increased independence, Sixth Form students may be granted limited exceptions:

- **Permitted Use:** Use is restricted to the **Sixth Form Study Hall** only.
- **Prohibitions:** Phones must never be used in the presence of younger pupils and should not distract from the focus of others or student progress in learning/ private study.
- **Sanctions:** Misuse of this privilege will result in sanctions under the standard School Behaviour Policy.

5. Learning & Personal devices

While the school may operate a **Bring Your Own Device** for laptops or tablets to facilitate learning, **mobile phones are strictly excluded** and may not be used as substitutes for educational hardware. Additionally, any students who use their own

devices for communication reasons such as social media, private calling and messages on such devices, will have device confiscated and disciplines noted.

6. Boarding Students

- **Teaching Day:** Devices are prohibited during the standard teaching day.
- **Pastoral Use:** Outside of teaching hours, use is governed by National Minimum Standards to ensure pupil welfare. For example, students who are in Year 7-11 must hand their phones in during the weekday before bedtime.
- **Family Contact:** The school will facilitate private contact between boarders and their families at suitable times, taking into account international time zones.

7. Safeguarding, Filtering, and Monitoring

The school will maintain robust filtering and monitoring systems in line with *Keeping Children Safe in Education*. This prevents access to harmful content via the school network and ensures the digital safety of all pupils. Bosworth's system is Securly and is monitored in keeping with the guidelines in KCSIE 2025

8. Non-Compliance

Any pupil found using a prohibited device will be subject to the school's **Behaviour Policy**. This will include the temporary confiscation of the device and where the behaviour is repeated further sanctions may apply. **See Code of Conduct, Acceptable Use in IT, Behaviour Policy and Safeguarding Policy**
