



Mobile Phone and Technology Policy

Rookwood School

Summer 2026

Date of adoption of this policy	Summer 2026
Date of last review of this policy	New Policy
Date for next review of this policy	Summer 2027
Policy owner (School)	Head

Contents

1	Purpose of the policy	3
2	Scope and application	3
3	Publication and availability	3
4	Regulatory framework	3
5	Expectations by school phase	3
6	Use outside of school	4
7	Enforcement	4
8	Safeguarding and Pastoral Considerations	5
9	Communication with Parents	5
10	Version control.....	5

Appendix

Appendix 1	Process for dealing with phones when not in Yondr Pouch.....	6
------------	--	---

1. Purpose of the Policy

Rookwood School (school) is committed to providing a **calm, safe and focused learning environment**. In line with Department for Education guidance (2026), mobile phones and similar smart devices are prohibited throughout the school day to reduce distraction, prevent bullying, and support positive social interaction.

This policy applies to all pupils across the school, with age-appropriate expectations and consistent enforcement.

2. Scope and Application

This policy covers:

- Mobile phones
- Smartwatches with communication or recording functions
- Any device capable of messaging, recording, or accessing the internet independently

Devices used for learning (e.g., laptops/tablets) fall under the school's ICT Acceptable Use Policy and **are not included** in this ban.

3. Publication and availability

This policy will appear on the school website and a hard copy can be accessed via request from the school office. Larger print and audio versions can be issued on request.

4. Regulatory framework

Under the Education (Digital Safety) Act 2026, Rookwood School expects all pupils to keep their phone in a lockable pouch throughout the school day (Model B)

Model B: Secure Storage (Yondr Pouches)

- Pupils may bring a phone to school **only for travel/safety outside school hours**.
- Phones must be placed in a **school-issued lockable pouch** upon arrival.
- Devices remain inaccessible until the end of the school day.

This model balances safeguarding, consistency, and practical needs for older pupils travelling independently.

5. Expectations by School Phase

Early Years & Primary (EY–Y6)

- Pupils **must not bring mobile phones** onto the school site.
- Any phone brought in error will be stored securely and returned to parents.

Secondary (Y7–Y11) – Pupils will be issued with a Yondr Pouch on entry into Year 7 or if they join at another time in the school year. If a pupil deliberately damages or loses a pouch, parents will incur a fee to replace the case.

- Phones must be secured in their Yondr Pouch on the school site.
- No access during lessons, transitions, break, or lunch.

- Smartwatches with communication functions are prohibited.

6. Use Outside the School Day

- Phones may be used **off-site only**, before entering and after leaving the premises.
- There may be a requirement to use their phones whilst on school trips or residential. This will be at the discretion of the trip organiser and clear expectations of use will be made.
- Boarding pupils (if applicable) may use phones outside teaching hours under separate residential guidelines.

7. Enforcement

Consistent enforcement is required by DfE guidance and will be reviewed by inspectors. The school will complete regular checks on pupils and those found breaking the rules will be dealt with in line with our Behaviour and Sanctions Policy.

Pupils are informed of the rules, with reminders in school and through information on notice boards. Appendix 1: Process for dealing with phones when not in Yondr Pouch.

If a pupil breaches the policy:

1. Device is confiscated and handed into School Reception/Office.
2. Parents are notified.
3. Repeated breaches may result in:
 - Behaviour sanctions
 - Requirement to hand in the device daily
 - Temporary ban on bringing a phone to school

8. Safeguarding & Pastoral Considerations

The policy supports:

- Reduced opportunities for cyberbullying during the school day
- Improved attention and wellbeing
- Safer social environments

SEND-related exceptions may be granted only where a device is required for a **specific, documented educational or medical need**, in line with Model D provisions. (Gov.UK)

9. Communication with Parents & Pupils

The school will:

- Publish this policy on the website
- Share it with all families annually
- Provide rationale and evidence supporting a phone-free environment
- Require parental acknowledgement of the policy

10. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if government guidance changes.

11. Version Control

Date of adoption of this policy	Summer 2026
Date of last review of this policy	New Policy
Date for next review of this policy	Summer 2027
Policy owner (School)	Head

Appendix 1: Process for dealing with phones when not in Yondr Pouch



PROCESS FOR DEALING WITH PHONES WHEN NOT IN Yondr POUCH

If you bring your phone into school, it must be kept locked in your Yondr pouch, failure to do so will result in the following actions.

