

Woodlands Secondary School	Student use of mobile phones in school Guidance	
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Date	Review Date	Author	Nominated Governors
September 2025	September 2027	Sandra Clarke	N/A
Website	Statutory Policy	Source	Ratification Date
Yes	No	N/A	September 2025

Please refer to the Use of Mobile Phones in school policy

Use of mobile phones by students

Students should not usually bring a mobile phone to school.

Some students who have a mobile phone may bring them to school on days when they have community visits or trips. The phones should be clearly labelled with their names.

Please note there is no expectation for any student to have a mobile phone and there is no expectation for them to be brought to school.

On the allocated community access day, if parents decide that their child will be taking their phone into school will follow the procedure below:

- Teachers/ class staff will collect the phones in the morning when students arrive and store them in a safe place until the session.
- Students will have access to their phones for the community session and will be responsible for looking after it for the whole of the session including the journey to and from the venue.
- Phones will be returned to students at the end of that school day.

Students should not use their mobile phones during the school day, including during lessons, in the time between lessons, at break times and at lunchtimes.

The school accepts no responsibility for the loss, theft or damage to students' mobile phones.

Use of smartwatches by students

The DfE's [non-statutory mobile phone guidance](#) includes in the term 'mobile phones' all devices with communications and smart technology that the school chooses to include in their policy.

Smartwatches are wristwatches with smart technology in them. They can be used to tell the time, send and receive text and voice messages, make calls and listen to music. Some smart watches have wellness and health-related features.

Students should not wear smart watches to school.

Exceptions for special circumstances

There may be exceptional circumstances where some students may benefit from having different access to their mobile phones during the day or at specific times e.g. when using the mobile to support them as a communication device.

If parents wish to make this special request, they are requested to send a letter/email to the school for the attention of the Headteacher and the request will be considered.

Sanctions

If students do not follow the rules about use of mobile phones in school, teachers may confiscate the mobile phones and parents will be requested to collect the phone from the school. The student will not be permitted to bring their phone back to school for an agreed number of sessions, this will be communicated to both students and parents.

Certain types of conduct, bullying or harassment can be classified as criminal conduct. The school takes such conduct extremely seriously and may involve the police or other agencies as appropriate.

Such conduct includes, but is not limited to:

- Sexting (consensual and non-consensual sharing nude or semi-nude images or videos)
- Upskirting
- Threats of violence or assault
- Abusive calls, emails, social media posts or texts directed at someone on the basis of someone's ethnicity, religious beliefs or sexual orientation