



Mobile Phones@TCS 2026-27

From today, the government expects all schools in England to be 'mobile phone' free – to give everyone a break from **distractions** and online **bullying** and the chance to **focus on learning and face-to-face social time**. **Students need a break – they deserve a break!**

At The Centre School we're going to manage this in a way that can work for everyone. We think that it's reasonable and easy to understand. **For students to benefit, it's vital that home and school, work in partnership and are supportive of these changes.**

Here are the new expectations:

- From when you arrive in the morning until you leave for Extended Curriculum (at 11.50am, 11.05am on a Friday), your mobile phone must be off/silent and in your bag/pocket (Not Seen, Not Heard, Not Used). **This includes smart watches and earbuds.**
- If you use your phone responsibly on Extended Curriculum, you will continue to be able to use it (on Extended Curriculum).

Phone Free 'til EC



Until Extended Curriculum, all phones must be:

Not Seen, Not Heard, Not Used



Things for families to think about...

- **Do you need to bring a phone to school?** Maybe you should leave your phone at home? Could an mp3 player or a non-smart phone be an alternative for the journey to and from school?
- **Do you want to hand your phone in each morning?** It can be stored securely in our mobile phone locker. You can collect it before Extended Curriculum or at the end of the day.
- If you do need to bring a phone to school, **turning it off and storing it in a bag** during the morning is the best way to ensure that you don't use it.



What if a student does use their phone during the morning?

If a phone appears, staff will gently remind the student to put it away (not seen, not heard, not used). We realise that 'getting the phone out' is habitual for some students and they will need to adjust to the new expectation.

If a student is actively (and persistently) using their phone, the following will happen.

- A) Staff will remind students of the expectation (and seek to understand any exceptional circumstances, as appropriate).
- B) Staff **will not** confiscate the phone.
- C) Families will be contacted and the student **will be required to hand their phone in at the beginning of the next school day, and for one week (5 days in total)**. Phones can be collected each day at taxis.