

12 May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

You may have seen on the news that the government intends to change the law to make the banning of mobile phones during the school day a requirement. In light of this, we will be updating our school procedures regarding mobile phones accordingly.

The revised arrangements will come into effect at Belper School on Monday 8 June.

Under the new procedures:

- Any phones that are brought into school must be switched off and locked in lockers at the start of the day.
- Phones are no longer allowed to be kept in student bags or pockets.
- Phones are not allowed to be used at any point during the school day, including break and lunchtime.

If your son or daughter does not currently have a locker, they should speak with their tutor this week so that one can be arranged. Please note that students will need to provide their own padlock.

Sixth form students will continue to be permitted to bring mobile phones into school.

However, they will not be allowed to use them in the corridors of the main school building.

After 8 June, if you need to contact your child in an emergency, please contact the school office and we will ensure that the message is passed on promptly. Students who need to contact home during the school day should continue to follow the existing system by going to Student Reception at break or lunchtime.

Please note that the consequences for students who breach these procedures remain in line with our current behaviour system. However, you will notice that the length of the first detention has been reduced to 30 minutes.

If a student breaches these procedures:

- The phone will be confiscated immediately.
- First breach: 30-minute detention.
- Second breach: 60-minute detention and parent/carer collection of the phone required.
- Repeated breaches will result in further escalated consequences in line with the school behaviour system.

As set out in legislation, schools are permitted by law to confiscate mobile phones where necessary. This legal framework will apply across all schools.

These changes will be communicated clearly to students during assemblies over the next two weeks, with opportunities for students to ask questions so that expectations are fully understood before the procedures come into effect.

As we currently have very few issues relating to mobile phone misuse in school, we are confident that this transition will be straightforward. The vast majority of our students already manage their mobile phone use sensibly and conduct themselves responsibly throughout the school day. We appreciate the maturity they consistently show and are confident they will adapt positively to these new procedures.

We appreciate your support in helping us maintain a focused and positive learning environment for all students.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "M Warden".

Matilde Warden  
Headteacher