

Monday 26th January 2026

Dear Families,

I am writing to follow up on our communication in September regarding the updated mobile phone procedures for the 2025/26 academic year. As a reminder, all students in Years 8–11 will be required to hand in their mobile phones on arrival and collect them at the end of the school day. Phones will remain securely stored throughout the day, and any student found using a phone during school hours will have it confiscated until Friday afternoon.

You may be aware that the Department for Education has recently strengthened national guidance on mobile phone use in schools. The Education Secretary has been clear that “*mobile phones have no place in schools*” and that previous guidance did not provide the clarity or consistency needed. The updated national position now states that all schools should operate as “*phone-free environments for the entire school day*”, including breaktimes and lunchtimes.

The guidance emphasises that this national reset is designed to remove ambiguity, support confident leadership, and ensure that policies are applied consistently. It also highlights the importance of parents supporting schools in setting and maintaining clear boundaries, noting that consistent expectations give pupils the best chance to learn and thrive.

Our school’s approach is fully aligned with this strengthened national direction. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us uphold these expectations and in reinforcing with your child the importance of following the procedures each day.

If you have any questions about the policy or require clarification regarding exemptions for medical needs, please contact the school office via [office@southbankua.org.uk](mailto:office@southbankua.org.uk) .

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Annette Moses  
Principal