



THE
BOLSOVER
SCHOOL

The Bolsover School

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Head of School: Miss S Spence

Executive Headteacher: Mr M Hall

Dear Year 7 parents and carers,

As we continue to strive for the best learning environment for our students, we are constantly looking for ways to improve focus and reduce distractions. One area of concern is the use of mobile phones in school and the temptation for students to check them during the day, despite existing rules around the use of mobile phones in school. We regularly hear from parents that they are also concerned about the amount of time their children spend on phones and the negative impact is having on their wellbeing.

To address this, The Bolsover School, will be introducing lockable mobile phone pouches for all Year 7 and Year 8 students. These will be provided by the school. Phone pouches have recently been successfully introduced by multiple other schools with the Redhill Academy Trust. Students will keep these pouches with them at all times but will be expected to place their phones into the locked pouch before they arrive at school. They will be able to unlock their cases on their way out of school using a magnetic unlocking device. Pouches will be collected back in at the end of the school year. There will be a small charge if students lose or damage their pouch.

We believe that this initiative will significantly improve concentration by removing the distraction of mobile phones. Students will keep their pouches in their bags throughout the school day, ensuring that they are not tempted to use their phones during lessons or breaks. If students are found to have not used their phone pouch or are using their mobile device, the **phone will be confiscated and parents/carers will be required to collect the device from main reception.**

In the event of an emergency where a student needs to use their phone, they can ask a member of staff to unlock their phone pouch for them. If parents need to contact their child during the school day, they should phone the main reception, and we will ensure the message is passed on promptly.

We understand that both students and parents appreciate the reassurance of having a mobile phone, especially when travelling to and from school. However, we believe that being in school without the distraction and temptation of using a phone will greatly benefit students' wellbeing and their ability to focus on their studies. Feedback from other schools who have been using similar systems for many years has been extremely positive. The intention is to gradually introduce phone pouches to other year groups.

Thank you for your support and understanding as we work together to create the best possible learning environment for our students. More information can be found by visiting <https://www.hushpouch.com/>

Yours faithfully,

Mr A Lyne

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