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DriffieldSchool

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23 September 2026

Dear Parent or Carer,

RE: Creating a Phone Free Environment

You may be aware that in June 2026 new guidance came into force requiring all schools to make adequate arrangements in school to ensure they were able to provide a phone free environment. The “not seen and not heard” approach adopted by many schools is deemed not sufficient to create a fully phone free environment.

We agree that creating a learning environment where every student is able to thrive is a key priority and therefore, we spent the summer term this year considering what viable options were available for our school community. We were very keen not to rush into adopting a new process as we want something that is effective and long term. Therefore, we have decided to adopt the [Yondr Phone-Free Schools Programme](#) from Thursday 15 October 2026.

Our students are growing up in an increasingly complex world, living their lives on and off line. This strategy isn't just about limiting screen time, it's about giving students the space to think deeply, engage meaningfully and thrive in an environment designed for their growth.

The new guidance does suggest a modification of the rules for Sixth Form students. Unlike the students in Years 7 - 11 they will be able to use their phones in the areas of the school site that are exclusive to the Sixth Form (Study Centre, Common Room etc) and in a lesson at the discretion of their teacher. However, students are asked not to have their mobile phone visible whilst moving around the rest of the site.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to create a focused, present and positive school environment for every student.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Andrews".

Mr D Andrews
Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form

