



29 June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Mobile Phones in School – New Guidance**

As you may have seen through recent media coverage, the Department for Education has announced new statutory guidance that strengthens expectations regarding the use of mobile phones in all schools and academies across England. This guidance comes into effect from September 2026.

For Kings Academy, this will not represent a significant change to our day-to-day expectations, as we have long operated a clear and successful mobile phone policy. Our expectation has always been straightforward: mobile phones must not be seen or used during the school day. Any phone that is visible or used will be confiscated in line with our school procedures.

These national changes reinforce what we know to be best for young people. Limiting access to mobile phones during the school day helps students to:

- focus on their learning
- engage positively with their peers
- reduce distractions and disruption
- support positive mental health and wellbeing
- contribute to a calm, safe and purposeful learning environment

We also recognise that mobile phones are an important part of everyday life and offer many benefits outside of school. We understand that parents and carers value being able to communicate with their child before and after the school day. Together, we all have a responsibility to help young people develop healthy habits around technology and to use it safely, appropriately and responsibly.

From September 2026, we will introduce a revised Mobile Phone Policy that reflects the updated national guidance and provides greater clarity for students and families. A copy of the policy will be shared with you before the start of the new academic year.

As part of these changes, some practical arrangements will also be updated, including how students access services such as café payments and digital timetables. We are already implementing alternative systems and additional support to ensure these services can continue to operate effectively without students needing to use their personal mobile phones during the school day. Further details will be shared in due course.

A: Kings Academy, Station Road, Cheddar, Somerset, BS27 3AQ  
E: [office@kowessex.co.uk](mailto:office@kowessex.co.uk) | W: [www.kowessex.co.uk](http://www.kowessex.co.uk) | T: 01934 742608



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In the meantime, our expectations remain unchanged:

- Mobile phones should be switched off and placed securely in their bag throughout the school day
- Mobile phones must not be used anywhere on the school site during school hours
- Any phone that is seen, heard, used, or visibly carried, including phones visible in pockets, will be confiscated in accordance with Kings Academy's procedures

We ask for your continued support by discussing these expectations with your child. A consistent message from both home and school will help ensure that every student understands the importance of these expectations and is able to focus fully on their learning.

Thank you for your continued support. By working together, we can continue to provide the calm, safe and distraction-free learning environment that every young person deserves.

**Yours sincerely**

**Dave Wiltshire**  
**Headteacher**

**A:** Kings Academy, Station Road, Cheddar, Somerset, BS27 3AQ  
**E:** office@kovessex.co.uk | **W:** www.kovessex.co.uk | **T:** 01934 742608



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