Yondr Student Phone Policy

Background

At Oasis Academy Lord's Hill, we're committed to creating a learning environment where every student can thrive. Our young people are growing up in an increasingly complex world, living their lives on and offline. This presents many exciting opportunities - but also academic, emotional and social challenges. Our goal is to promote a focused and distraction free learning environment whilst encouraging responsible use of technology. To support this, we have a mobile phone policy that incorporates the Yondr programme.

https://www.overyondr.com/

In line with Government Guidance, we believe that every student deserves the chance to experience a phone-free education. Yondr pouches provide a simple and secure way of supporting this approach across our school. This approach provides a balanced solution, ensuring young people retain possession of their phones while minimising distractions during school hours.

The pouch helps foster social interaction, improve focus on learning, and reduce stress associated with phone use, all while maintaining communication for families during travel to and from school.

Student Phone Policy & Guidelines

Our school is a phone-free community. Each student is assigned a personal Yondr Pouch and they are responsible for bringing it to school daily and keeping it in good working condition. **Phones and wearable tech will be secured in the pouch upon arrival and remain there until the end of the school day.**

Daily Process

Upon arrival, students:

1. Turn their phone off.
2. Place their phone and any wearable technology inside their Yondr pouch and lock it **in the presence of school staff**.
3. Keep the pouched phone with them throughout the school day, and store it in their bag.

At the end of the school day, students unlock their pouch, retrieve their phone and tech, and reclose the pouch to protect the locking mechanism from damage. Pouches must be brought to and from school each day.

Note: Students arriving late or leaving early must pouch or unpouch their phones in the student reception.

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Late Arrivals/Early Dismissals

Students arriving late or leaving early must pouch or unpouch their phones and wearable tech at the student reception.

Forgotten Pouches

If a student forgets their pouch, they must have their phones stored in their year team office or reception for the school day. The phone will be returned to the student at the end of the day.

As with uniform students may well be asked to go home and collect their pouch.

Phone Use During the School Day

If a student is found in possession of a phone **outside of their pouch** on school site, they will be **suspended**, initially for the remainder of the day. This will be followed up with a reintegration meeting with parents.

Searches are conducted if teachers are concerned that a student has a mobile device on them that hasn't been secured into their pouch.

Damaged Pouches

Any attempt to tamper with the Yondr system, including use or possession of high-strength magnets will be treated as a **serious offence**, resulting in a **suspension** and potentially a replacement fee of £20.

If accidental damage occurs, students must report it immediately. If damage is discovered during checks and has not been reported, it may be considered **intentional**.

The following may indicate intentional damage:

- Ripped or cut fabric
- Bent or cut pin
- Signs of force to the black locking mechanism
- Pen marks inside the pouch
- Pouch opening without a station
- Scuff marks on the black ball

Communications During the School Day

We want students to be engaged as much as possible in their learning. If a parent needs to contact their child during the school day, they are to contact the academy office (02380 393660) who will take the appropriate action.

Medical Conditions

Students who require access to their mobile devices for specific medical purposes will be provided with a medical pouch. These medical conditions include but are not limited to: Diabetes type 1, medical impacts and the use of pacemakers.

Emergency Procedures

If there is a schoolwide emergency staff have access to portable unlocking stations and will support the students in unlocking pouches when it is safe to do so.