



QUEEN'S PARK HIGH SCHOOL

Subject: We're Going Phone-Free with Yondr

Dear Parents and Guardians,

At Queen's Park High School 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. At the start of the new academic year, we will launch the [Yondr Phone-Free Schools Programme](#). This 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.

For over a decade, Yondr has supported schools in more than 40 countries to build healthier, more engaging school cultures. Their pouch-based program, combined with hands-on guidance and dedicated support, has led to powerful results:

- 86% reported improved safety and student wellness
- 84% saw increased engagement in class
- 44% reduced behavioral referrals

How the Programme Works

Each student will be assigned a Yondr pouch—a secure, lockable case for storing personal devices. Students are responsible for bringing their pouch to and from school each day and keeping it in good condition.

- **Upon arrival:** Students power off all smart technology including their mobile phones and smart watches, place all devices in the pouch, and lock it in front of a teacher.
- **During the day:** Students keep the locked pouch in their backpack or locker.
- **At dismissal:** Students unlock pouches at designated stations to retrieve their devices.

This process is quick, simple, and will be supervised by staff as part of our daily routine.

Staying Connected

With student safety as our top priority, we will follow our standard safety protocols in the event of an emergency. If you need to reach your child during the school day, please contact our main office.

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

Yours sincerely,

Mr T Kearns
Headteacher



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Frequently Asked Questions

Morning and Afternoon Procedures

How quick is the unlocking process?

The unlocking process is quick and students typically don't need to break stride. While students are still getting used to how to unlock pouches, staff will be on hand with mobile unlocking stations to stop queues forming in the first few weeks. If needed we will add extra unlocking points.

What if my child arrives late or needs to be dismissed early?

The main office and student reception will have an unlocking device for students to monitor students arriving late or leaving early.

Will my child's phone be safe?

Students are in possession of their phone - in their Yondr pouch - for the entire school day. We will advise students to store the pouch safely in their bags. While the Yondr pouch will provide some protection, it's not a protective case, so students should continue to handle their phones with the same care they normally would to prevent damage.

What happens if a student forgets to open their pouch at the end of the day?

In Yondr's experience, this almost never happens. All students funnel past the unlocking stations at the exits and they typically want their phones back. If they do arrive home with a phone in a pouch, they can either come back to school to unlock it, or have a phone free evening!

What happens if a student forgets to bring in their pouch?

The student's phone will be collected and securely stored in the school office until the end of the day. Parents/carers will be contacted and reminded of the procedures. If the pouch is repeatedly forgotten their pouch will be treated as lost and a replacement fee of £19.00 will be charged. We suggest that students leave the pouches in their school bags and pouches must stay in the locked position when not at school.

Daily Pouch Use

What if my child needs their phone for medical reasons?

We have an alternative solution for the small number of students who require their phones for medical reasons (e.g. diabetes). We will be in touch with these families if they have informed us of their medical condition.

What happens if a phone is seen outside of a pouch?

If a student is found in possession of a phone **outside their pouch** on school site the phone will be confiscated and returned when a parent/guardian picks it up from the school site.

What if the Yondr pouch gets damaged?



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Any attempt to tamper with the Yondr system, including use or possession of high-strength magnets will be treated as a **serious offence**, potentially resulting in a **£19.00**, confiscation of their device until collected by a parent and suspension considered.

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**. Students will be provided guidelines to lock their pouch when they leave school to avoid any accidental damage.

The pouch should not be used as a replacement for a protective case and/or screen protector on a mobile device.

We will be conducting random pouch/spot checks over the full academic year to assess the condition of pouches.

Emergencies

What if there is a school emergency?

In an emergency, the priority is for students to follow school safety procedures under staff guidance.

Unauthorised phone use during such situations may:

- Delay emergency responses
- Spread misinformation
- Put students and staff at increased risk
- Disrupt coordinated safeguarding measures

Emergency communications will be managed through the school.

An updated copy of the schools behaviour policy can be found at [Queen's Park High School - Policies & Documents](#)