

NW/LR

May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Further to my letter in April 2026, you will be aware of the latest government guidance on the use of mobile phones in schools. On 19th January 2026, the government urged all schools to always prohibit phones in schools, and The House of Lords have now voted to ban mobile phones in schools completely. A legal ban is still however being debated in parliament.

However, and regardless of any impending legal ban, I am writing to share that we have decided to change our procedures and processes for managing mobile phones on school site.

With effect from Monday 1st June 2026 The Bemrose School will become a phone-free zone to ensure our scholars remain focused, social, and safe. On site will mean out of sight.

Whilst we understand that mobile phones provide a sense of security to and from school, their presence during the school day has increasingly become a barrier to social interaction and we are seeing a number of pupils using phones inappropriately leading to school having to confiscate these. So, from the start of the new school timetable in June we expect pupils from the moment they enter the school gates until the moment they leave school site at the end of the day to have their mobile phones switched off and always kept completely out of sight. This practice applies to all areas of the site, including classrooms, corridors, dining rooms and all outside areas such as playgrounds and grassed areas.

To ensure this is effective, we will be operating a **zero-tolerance approach**: Any phone seen or heard on the school site **will be immediately confiscated by staff**. Confiscated phones will only be returned to the parent of the pupil. **Mobiles will only be released to a parent or legal guardian** through the main reception with a conversation with a member of the Leadership Team or Care and Guidance at the end of the school day.

We ask for your full support in discussing these changes with your child. If you need to reach your child urgently during the day, please contact the main reception, and we will ensure a message is delivered. Thank you for your continued partnership in helping our scholars to reach their full potential without inappropriate digital distractions.

Yours faithfully



Neil Wilkinson
Executive Headteacher

