



Behaviour and Culture

Frequently Asked Questions for families

Please see below some questions and answers regarding the changes to our positive behaviour and relationships policy which are coming into effect in January 2023. This document will continue to be updated with any questions we receive from families and students about our approach along with answers to them.

If you have any questions, please use the link below

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=gGfPFvBL70-q-gtugufqCpyXuj0LrpJAgM59_YB9c1NUOTNPSkFDTFNWSU1aRFBIUkpUSEI4TVZCQS4u

Contents

How does my child access support in school?	1
What is our behaviour curriculum?	1
Will buses be available for students who have detentions?	1
Why are mobile phones not able to be used on the school site?	2
What will happen if a student’s mobile phone is heard, seen, or used on the school site?	2
Is the school allowed to confiscate my mobile phone for 24 hours?	2
What else do I need to know about mobile phone use?	2

How does my child access support in school?

Whatever queries or concerns students may have, it’s vital that they feel that they can approach a member of staff. Students should first approach their form tutor or as an alternative, their Student Support Assistant or Head of Year.

What is our behaviour curriculum?

We aim to create a culture of exceptionally good behaviour: for learning, for our community and for life. Our behaviour curriculum defines the expected behaviours in school, but rather than focusing on prohibited behaviour it is centred on what successful behaviour looks like and defining it clearly for all. It is also driven by our shared values of scholarship, tenacity, curiosity, respect, and responsibility. Form time will be used to deliver our behaviour curriculum from January. We firmly believe that through encouraging positive behaviours, we can promote good relationships built on trust and understanding. As students practise these behaviours, over time they become habits that positively shape themselves as a person but also our wider school community.

Will buses be available for students who have detentions?

Yes, late buses will run at 4.00pm (also available to students who have period 6 lessons) and at 4.30pm. The late buses will serve all the villages that are served by local authority provided school transport, dropping

off at one central location in each village. The only exception to this is Hemingford Abbots, due to operation constraints during the winter months.

Why are mobile phones not able to be used on the school site?

We strongly believe that the unsupervised and unrestricted use of mobile phones has the potential to significantly undermine the safe, kind, and harmonious culture of our school. Mobile phones, and other electronic devices, are brought into school at students' own risk. Mobile phones should remain off and in bags from the time your child/ren enters the school site until 3:00pm. Students will be allowed to use their phone after 3:00pm once they have left any of the school's buildings.

What will happen if a student's mobile phone is heard, seen, or used on the school site?

A member of staff will instruct the student in question to hand over their mobile phone, which will be temporarily confiscated. The phone will be stored securely in the school office and can be collected from Reception at the end of the next school day. If the phone is confiscated on a Friday, this means that it won't be available for collection until the end of Monday, if Monday is the next school day.

If a phone is confiscated, parents/carers will be informed as soon as possible. If a student chooses not hand over their phone, the consequence will be the Reset Classroom (5 lessons, including breaks followed by a 90-minute after-school detention). If your child needs to contact you during the school day they can do so through their key stage office, or if you need to speak to your child urgently, please call the main school line.

Is the school allowed to confiscate my mobile phone for 24 hours?

A school can confiscate an item where use is prohibited in line with the school's policy. The confiscation is temporary. Schools work to Government guidance that addresses this matter, which can be found here: [Searching, Screening and Confiscation \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk).

What else do I need to know about mobile phone use?

We want to ensure that mobile phones are not an impediment to the safe, kind and purposeful culture we want to create in school. That said, we appreciate that there may be circumstances in which students and families feel uncomfortable with the prospect of a mobile phone being confiscated overnight. We want to assist students and families in their support this important element of our policy, and therefore we offer the following support.

- **If a student's mobile phone is confiscated, they will have the opportunity to ensure that it is turned off and stored inside a sealed labelled envelope.** The mobile phone will be stored securely in Reception and parents/carers will be notified that the confiscation has taken place. The phone will be available for collection from Reception at the end of the next school day.
- **If parents/carers are concerned that the student is likely to use their mobile phone (and risk confiscation) we offer a mobile phone hand-in service.** Students can deposit their mobile phone before 'morning address' at the beginning of the school day where it will be stored securely until they collect it at the close of the school day.
- **In the event of an emergency during the school day, school staff will contact parents/carers. If a parent/carer needs to reach their child in an emergency, they should contact school Reception and we will manage the communication from there.** If a student needs to contact home (perhaps due to a forgotten lunch, PE kit etc.) they can do so via their Key Stage office. You will be aware that we support students in this way each and every day.
- **If you use a mobile phone to monitor a medical condition (e.g. diabetes management), you will be issued with a Medical Card that describes this exceptional use of a mobile phone on school**

site. You must restrict your mobile phone use to this purpose and carry your Medical Card at all times (and be prepared to show it to staff, as appropriate).

It is worth noting that the vast majority of students at St Ivo Academy have never had their mobile phone confiscated. This is because it is switched-off, stored in their bag and not used throughout the school day. By doing this, you can make certain that there is no risk of mobile phone confiscation – and at the same time ensure that you are ‘doing your bit’ to ensure that phones are not a social or learning issue for anyone.