

SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOYS

ACADEMY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Prittlewell Chase, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS0 0RG
(01702) 606200 enquiries@shsb.org.uk www.shsb.org.uk

Headteacher: Mrs R V Worth



23 March 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Today all students were informed of upcoming changes to our mobile phone policy.

Rationale

Following updated guidance from the Department for Education, we will be introducing a revised policy on the use of mobile phones in school, from the start of the Summer Term.

The guidance recommends that schools prohibit the use of mobile phones and similar smart technology throughout the school day. We recognise that many pupils use their phones before and after school for practical reasons such as accessing bus tickets, checking transport information, contacting home about travel arrangements, or checking timetables before the start of the day. The new expectations apply during the school day, and pupils will still be able to use their phones for these purposes before lessons begin at 08:30 and after they finish, at 15:30.

Our new rules are as follows:

Years 7–11

Mobile phones must be switched off and kept in bags throughout the school day (08:30–15:30). Phones must not be visible or used at any time, including during break and lunchtime.

Years 12–13

Sixth form students may use phones only:

- in the Sixth Form block
- in the Sixth Form area of the library
- during lessons, where permitted by the teacher

Exceptions

There will be exceptions for medical needs (for example diabetes monitoring) and for supervised contact with home, where required.



When will this start?

The policy will begin at the start of the Summer Term – Monday 13th April. There will be a two-week transition period where pupils are reminded of the new expectations. After this, if a pupil is caught using a phone it will be confiscated for the remainder of that school day. Repeated failure to meet these expectations will be addressed using the school sanctions system.

Details have been shared with pupils, so that everyone is clear about the new expectations. Please discuss these changes with your son/daughter.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mr March
Deputy Headteacher – Pupil Outcomes