

13th April 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to remind you of Haileybury Turnford's expectations regarding mobile phones and to outline how our approach aligns with strengthened national guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) and recent updates from Ofsted.

From as soon as students enter school through the gates by reception each morning, students are not permitted to use their mobile phones anywhere on the school site. This includes students attending breakfast club from 7.45am. This expectation applies before morning registration, during lessons, between lessons, and throughout break and lunchtimes. If a mobile phone is seen or used during the school day at any point until the lesson bell at 3.05pm at the end of Period 5, it will be confiscated in line with our Rewards Behaviour & Discipline and Mobile Phone policies. Both policies can be found by using the following link: <https://haileyburyturnford.com/policies/>

The Department for Education's updated guidance states that all schools should be "mobile phone-free environments by default", covering the entire school day and aiming to create calm, safe and focused learning environments free from the distraction and risks associated with mobile phones. The government also emphasises that schools must clearly communicate and consistently enforce their mobile phone policy.

In addition, Ofsted has confirmed that inspectors will actively review how well a school implements and communicates its mobile-phone expectations. From April 2026, inspections will include evaluating:

- how the school's policy is communicated to parents and students
- whether staff and students understand and follow expectations
- how consistently the policy is enforced throughout the school day and across all areas of school life.

These national expectations reflect growing evidence about the impact of mobile phones on students' concentration, wellbeing and safety. Mobile phones can cause significant distraction and may contribute to safeguarding concerns such as online bullying. By limiting mobile-phone use, we continue to ensure students engage fully in learning and build positive relationships with other students.


Our policies support the creation of a calm, safe and inclusive school environment, and we appreciate your support in reinforcing these expectations at home. Please ensure your child understands that their phone must remain switched off and out of sight for the entire school day.

If your child has a specific medical, or other need that requires access to a mobile device, please contact the school so that appropriate arrangements can be considered, as recommended in national guidance.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us uphold high standards and maintain an environment where every student can thrive.

We will continue to review our mobile phones policy in line with national statutory guidance, and will again publish our policy prior to September 2026 when the new academic year begins.

Yours faithfully



Mrs M Goodes
Senior Vice Principal



Haileybury Turnford, Mill Lane, Cheshunt, EN8 0JU 01992 308333
enquiries@haileyburyturnford.com www.haileyburyturnford.com
Principal: Robin Newman MSc MBA NPQEL