



**LVS Ascot**

A Co-educational Day & Boarding School  
for young people aged 4 - 18

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## **Pupil Mobile Phone and Smart Watches Policy**

**2024-2025**

**SMT Member responsible: Laura Collins**

LVS Ascot has adopted a no mobile phones and smart watches approach to school for all years up to and including year 11. The purpose of this, as shown in research, is to improve academic performance and social interaction amongst our pupils. LVS Ascot requires parents or guardians to purchase a Yondr Pouch, through the school, for use by the pupils.

### **Sixth Form Mobile Phone and Smart Watches Policy**

Pupils who are studying in LVS Ascot Sixth Form, are permitted to use their mobile phones, only in the designated areas. These are either, the outdoor area at the back of the Sixth Form Centre or in the Sixth Form Centre itself. Pupils are not permitted to use their mobile phones at any other locations around the school site. In addition, pupils must adhere to the acceptable use policy, which is signed on entry to LVS Ascot, and each year are required to resign to say that this is understood.

All digital devices, including smart watches, are banned from all examinations. Pupils are expected to hand in any unauthorised devices to invigilators before entering the exam hall. Any pupil found in possession of a personal digital device during an examination will have that paper disqualified. Such an incident may result in all other exam papers being disqualified in accordance with JCQ regulations.

### **Pupil Mobile Phone and Smart Watches Policy (8:40am – until leaving the care of the school)**

Every pupil in year 5-11 who brings a mobile phone into school (confirmation of no mobile phone required by parents) is required to bring to school a Yondr Pouch which has been purchased through the school. Pupils must bring their Yondr Pouch to school each day. Failure to do so will result in sanctions being put in place.

Pupils must have written their name onto the card slip which fits into the pouch.

On arrival to morning registration, pupils will be required to get the pouch out of their bags, and switch their mobile phones off, place the mobile phone and smart watches if applicable, into their pouches and seal their pouches in front of school staff. Senior School pupils should then place their pouches into their lockers on their way to their first lesson. Pupils in the Infant and Junior School will take their pouch to the admin office, where they will be stored securely until the end of the school day.

Pupils that arrive late to school, upon signing in at school reception, will secure their phone in their pouch in front of the receptionist.

Unlocking stations will be situated around the school site and will be unlocked just before the end of the school day by school staff. Portable unlocking stations will be taken by the PE department to fixtures, and there will be other portable unlocking stations around the school site where necessary. Any attempt to vandalise the unlocking stations will result in an immediate after school detention with an escalation of sanctions for repeat offenders.

Upon leaving the school site to go home pupils should unlock their phone pouches. Pupils who are going to extended day, the LRC or to after school clubs and fixtures must keep their phones in their pouches until they are leaving the responsibility of the school.

The same rules apply to school trips, unless express permission has been given to pupils from the trip leader only.

## **SANCTIONS AND VIOLATIONS**

Pouches must be brought to school every day, as part of the policy. Failure to do so will result in the mobile phone being confiscated and the pupil being issued a Friday after school detention. Repeat offenders will have their sanctions escalated, up to and including permanent exclusion, as per the exclusions policy.

If a pupil loses their pouch, the school will issue a new pouch to the pupil and a cost of £35 will be added to the next school bill. Pupils must notify school reception immediately the pouch becomes lost. Failure to notify the school that the pouch has been lost will result in a Friday after school detention being issued.

Pouches must not be damaged. Damage to pouches includes:

- Ripped fabric
- Cut
- Torn
- Bent/cut pin
- Signs of force to black button on flap
- Damage to the black ball
- Pouch opens without unlocking station

Pouches which are seen to be damaged, purposefully, will result in the mobile phone being confiscated and the pupil being sent home for the day. A replacement pouch will be issued and a cost of £35 will be added to the next school bill. If a pouch is accidentally damaged then the pupil must inform school reception immediately and a replacement pouch will be issued, and the £35 cost added to the next school bill.

Any pupil found to be in possession of any mobile phone or smart watch not placed in a pouch, will be immediately sent home. Any pupil who repeatedly breaches this policy will be in danger of their place at LVS Ascot being withdrawn, in line with the exclusions policy.

As per the Search and Confiscation policy, mobile phones and smart watches are considered to be banned items within LVS Ascot, and as such, if suspicion exists that a pupil is in possession of either of these items which are not placed in a Yondr Pouch, the pupil may be asked to turn out their pockets, of blazers, outerwear and trousers, and bags and lockers may be searched. Pupils who are found to have their mobile phone or smart watch on them, not in a pouch, will be sent home immediately. Pupils who repeatedly do this, will have sanctions escalated and could result in permanent exclusion.

## **Exemptions**

Some pupils require access to their mobile phones or smart watches for medical or neurodiversity reasons. A list of these pupils will be circulated to staff from the Deputy Head Wellbeing. Parents of pupils who require an exemption must contact the Deputy Head Wellbeing and have it confirmed in writing before the pupils are able to have access to their phones and/or smart watches.