

Langley Park School for Girls

Enabling everyone to thrive – acting with kindness, determination and respect.



Headteacher: Mr S Whittle, MA (Cantab), PGCE, NPQH

16th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Planned Changes to Mobile Phone Procedures from September 2026

I am writing to inform you of an important change to our mobile phone procedures which will be introduced from September 2026.

As you may be aware, the Department for Education's [statutory guidance](#) now expects schools to implement policies which ensure that pupils do not have access to their mobile phones throughout the school day, including during lessons, between lessons, at breaktimes and during lunchtime.

In recent years, we have operated an "on site, out of sight" approach. The vast majority of our students have adhered to this expectation and we are grateful for the support that families have given us in maintaining high standards.

To ensure that our arrangements fully align with the new guidance, and following careful consideration of approaches adopted successfully in other schools, we will be introducing a new procedure for students in Years 7-11 from September 2026.

Under these new arrangements, students who bring a mobile phone to school will be required to hand it in at the start of the school day. Phones will be stored securely in a designated locker within the student's form room and will be returned to them at the end of the school day. This approach is already in place, or being introduced, in a number of schools and has been shown to be effective in creating a mobile-phone-free learning environment.

We recognise that some students require access to a mobile phone for medical reasons, such as monitoring and managing diabetes or other health conditions. Students who need a phone as part of a documented medical care plan will be exempt from these arrangements and will continue to have access to their mobile phone throughout the school day, as required to support their health and wellbeing.

We also understand that many parents and carers wish their child to have access to a mobile phone for safety and communication purposes on their journey to and from school. We fully appreciate these concerns and recognise the reassurance that a mobile phone can provide. At the same time, we believe that the overwhelming majority of families share our view that mobile phones can sometimes be a distraction to learning and, on occasion, contribute to difficulties within school.

Whilst instances of inappropriate mobile phone use in and around school are relatively uncommon, there are clear benefits to creating an environment in which students do not have access to phones during social times. Removing access to phones at break and lunchtime, including in areas such as toilets and changing facilities, helps to safeguard students, supports their social and emotional development and encourages them to engage more positively with their peers. We want students to make the most of opportunities to talk, collaborate, play, build friendships and develop the interpersonal skills that are such an important part of growing up.

Parents and carers are reminded that if they need to make urgent contact with their child during the school day, this should continue to be done through the school office. Similarly, if your child is unwell, requires assistance, or is involved in a significant incident during the school day, school staff will contact you directly.

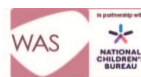
Langley Park School for Girls, Hawksbrook Lane, South Eden Park Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 3BE

Tel: 020 8639 5200 • info@lpgs.bromley.sch.uk • www.lpgs.bromley.sch.uk

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The current version of our [Parent/Carer Handbook](#) sets out our rationale for restricting mobile phone use during the school day, as well as some of the practical considerations associated with this policy. The handbook will be updated for September 2026 to reflect the new procedures, while the principles underpinning our approach will remain unchanged.

We will be sharing information with students about these planned changes before the end of the current term and will provide further details regarding the practical arrangements (i.e for students leaving school during the school day or arriving late at school) before, or at the start of, the new academic year.

We are confident that these arrangements will help us to create an environment that is fully focused on learning, wellbeing and positive social interaction. We hope that parents and carers will support us in achieving this balance: recognising that students may have access to a phone on their journey to and from school, whilst helping us to maintain a mobile-phone-free environment during the school day itself.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Yours faithfully

Mr Whittle
Headteacher