

18 December 2025

Dear Parents

As many parents are aware there is considerable news coverage regarding the issue of mobile phone use amongst young people.

At Knole Academy, we regularly review our approaches to learning, wellbeing and positive behaviour to ensure they best support our students. As part of this, we are consulting with parents to explore whether smartphone pouches could help strengthen and support our existing Off and Away phone policy across the school in a clear, calm and consistent way. The school intends to implement smartphone pouches for the new intake of Year 7 students where the purchasing of a lockable case will be part of the equipment expectations. This consultation is about understanding parent views on extending the use to the current Year 7-10 and identifying any issues we should consider.

Our Off and Away policy sets clear expectations for mobile phone use during the school day. However, as in many schools, applying this consistently can be challenging in practice. Some schools are now using smartphone pouches as a practical tool to:

- Reduce distractions during lessons
- Support focus and learning
- Minimise daily conflict around phone use
- Encourage healthier phone habits

Smartphone pouches securely store phones during the school day, while allowing students to keep their phones with them. Phones are freely useable for journeys to and from school.

If we decided to implement lockable smartphone pouches for current students, Knole Academy will supply the first pouch, however replacements for lost or maliciously broken pouches, will cost approximately £17.

We will plan for students who use their phones as a medical tracking device, for conditions such as diabetes; these will be discussed on an individual basis.

To help parents understand what a smartphone pouch looks like in practice, you can view an example here <https://getquietcase.com/pages/schools>. This link is provided purely to illustrate the type of solution being explored and does not indicate that a final decision has been made. Any solution considered would be assessed carefully for safety, practicality and suitability for our school community.

If we were to introduce smartphone cases, we would look for an implementation date of June/July 2026. The implementation does not extend to Sixth Form students, and therefore we are only collecting the views of parents in the current Year 7-10.

CREATIVITY IN LEARNING, CONFIDENCE TO ACHIEVE

Please follow the link below to share your views:

[Lockable Phone Cases at Knole Academy – Fill in form](#)

Thank you for your consideration

Best wishes



David Collins
Headteacher