

www.castanglingproject.co.uk

25.8.2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Introduction of CAST Mobile Phone & Electronic Devices Policy from 1 September 2026

I am writing to inform you of an important change that will take effect from **1 September 2026** following updated statutory guidance issued by the Department for Education regarding mobile phones in education. The guidance requires education providers to establish mobile phone-free environments and ensure that pupils do not have access to mobile phones during the education day.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mobile-phones-in-schools/mobile-phones-in-schools>

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As an education provider, we fully support the aims of this guidance, which are designed to improve learning, behaviour, wellbeing and safeguarding for all pupils.

What will this mean for pupils?

From 1 September 2026:

- Pupils must not use mobile phones during the education day.
- Mobile phones and electronic devices such as smart watches must remain switched off and stored away by staff throughout the day. They will be placed in clearly labelled wallets with student's individual name in a locked safe storage container.
- Any pupil found using a device may have it confiscated in line with our Behaviour Policy.

Why is the change being introduced?

Research and education experience consistently show that reducing access to mobile phones during the education day helps to:

- Increase concentration and engagement in learning.
- Reduce distractions.
- Support positive relationships and face-to-face interaction.
- Reduce opportunities for cyberbullying and inappropriate online activity.
- Strengthen safeguarding and pupil wellbeing.

What if I need to contact my child?

If you need to pass an urgent message to your child during the education day, please contact the education office. Staff will ensure that important messages are relayed promptly.



CAST Angling Projects
Cornerstone House
Tilford Road
Newstead Village
NG15 0BU
01623 723431

www.castanglingproject.co.uk

Similarly, if your child needs to contact you, appropriate arrangements will be made through the education office.

Medical and Exceptional Circumstances

We recognise that a small number of pupils may require access to technology for medical or other specific needs. These situations will be considered individually and reasonable adjustments made where appropriate.

Working Together

We appreciate your support in helping us implement this change successfully. By working together, we can create a calmer, safer and more focused learning environment in which every child can thrive.

A copy of the education's Mobile Phone-Free Education Policy is available on our website and can also be requested by emailing isis@castap.org.uk

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Mick Leivers

CAST Director