

Lincroft Academy- A Truly Phone-free School

Frequently Asked Questions

How huSH works...



When entering the school premises, students put their electronic items (phone, air pods, smart watches) inside the pouch.



Once pushed into the pouch, simply engage the locking pin.



When exiting the premises, students will click the pouch open at a hush unlocking station.

Question	Response
Will this cost me any money? Do parents/carers buy the pouch?	No all students will be given one pouch free of charge; this should last them the duration of their time at Lincroft Academy.
What if my child loses their pouch?	Replacement pouches cost £15 and can be ordered through the MCAS app. Financial support is available for students receiving Pupil Premium.
Is the school responsible if a device is damaged inside the pouch?	No. Pouches are padded and protect phones during normal school use. Students remain responsible for their devices.
Can the pouch be used at home?	Yes, but it cannot be unlocked until students return to school.
What if the pouch gets wet?	It is water-repellent and fine with spills, but not fully waterproof—so some care is still needed.

How does the system work at the start of the day?	Students unlock their pouch at the front of school, place their electronic items (including phone, air pods and smart watches) inside, and lock it before entering the site.
What happens at the end of the day?	Unlocking stations will be located: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Near the Amethyst gate • Near the sports hall gate (close to bus collection points) • In reception
Will my child miss their bus?	No. Other schools using pouches report no issues. We will have multiple unlocking stations to keep queues moving.
What if my child forgets to unlock their pouch?	The site is open until 5pm. Students or parents can also access a wall mounted magnet to unlock the pouch at the front of school out of hours.
What if my child doesn't bring a phone to school?	They will still be issued a pouch, which should remain in their school bag.
What if my child arrives late due to an appointment?	Reception has an unlocking station so students can secure their phone when they sign in.
What if my child needs to leave school during the day?	Reception will unlock the pouch before they leave.
What if my child needs their phone for a medical condition (e.g., diabetes)?	Students with a verified medical need will receive a Velcro medical pouch. This will be discussed with the individual student to manage this sensitively.
Will staff help students who struggle with coordination?	Yes. Staff are on duty to support students.
How can I contact my child?	Your child's SSA should be the first point of call if you need to contact your child. If the SSA is unavailable the school reception will be able to get a message to the SSA very quickly.

How will my child contact me in an emergency?	All students can access any one of the Four House Offices which are open during the school day including breaks and lunches.
What happens if a mobile phone is seen outside the pouch?	It will be confiscated as is the case currently.
What if a child brings two or more phones?	Any phone seen will be confiscated, and we would liaise with parents/carers around why this has happened.
Do schools have the right to confiscate phones?	Yes, supported by the Department for Education guidance. Guidance can be read here
Will staff check what is in the pouches?	Yes. Spot checks will be carried out by trained staff.
What if my child attends an after-school club?	They will be supported to unlock their pouch after the club ends, or they can access the wall mounted magnet at the front of the school.
What if a student arrives without their pouch?	The students' phone will be collected and looked after until the end of the school day.
How will the school contact parents in a serious incident?	Parents will be informed via MCAS or telephoned directly.
How will you measure success	We will monitor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced phone confiscations • Improved focus and engagement in lessons • Student and staff survey feedback • Behaviour and social interactions