

Stratton School

A Truly Phone-Free School?



Achievement
for all



Valuing People



High Quality
Learning
Environment



Pursuit of
Excellence



Extending the
Boundaries of
Learning



Parent/Carer Survey

296 Responses

Year group	Responses linked to specific Year
7	74
8	77
9	72
10	59
11	57
12	23
13	13

- Child owns a mobile phone (Yes): 97.6%
- Allow phone to be taken to school (Yes): 92.0%
- Reported unsafe/pressured online (Yes): 18.1%
- VPN checking confidence (No): 42.6%
- Support stricter restrictions (Strongly/Somewhat): 80.6%



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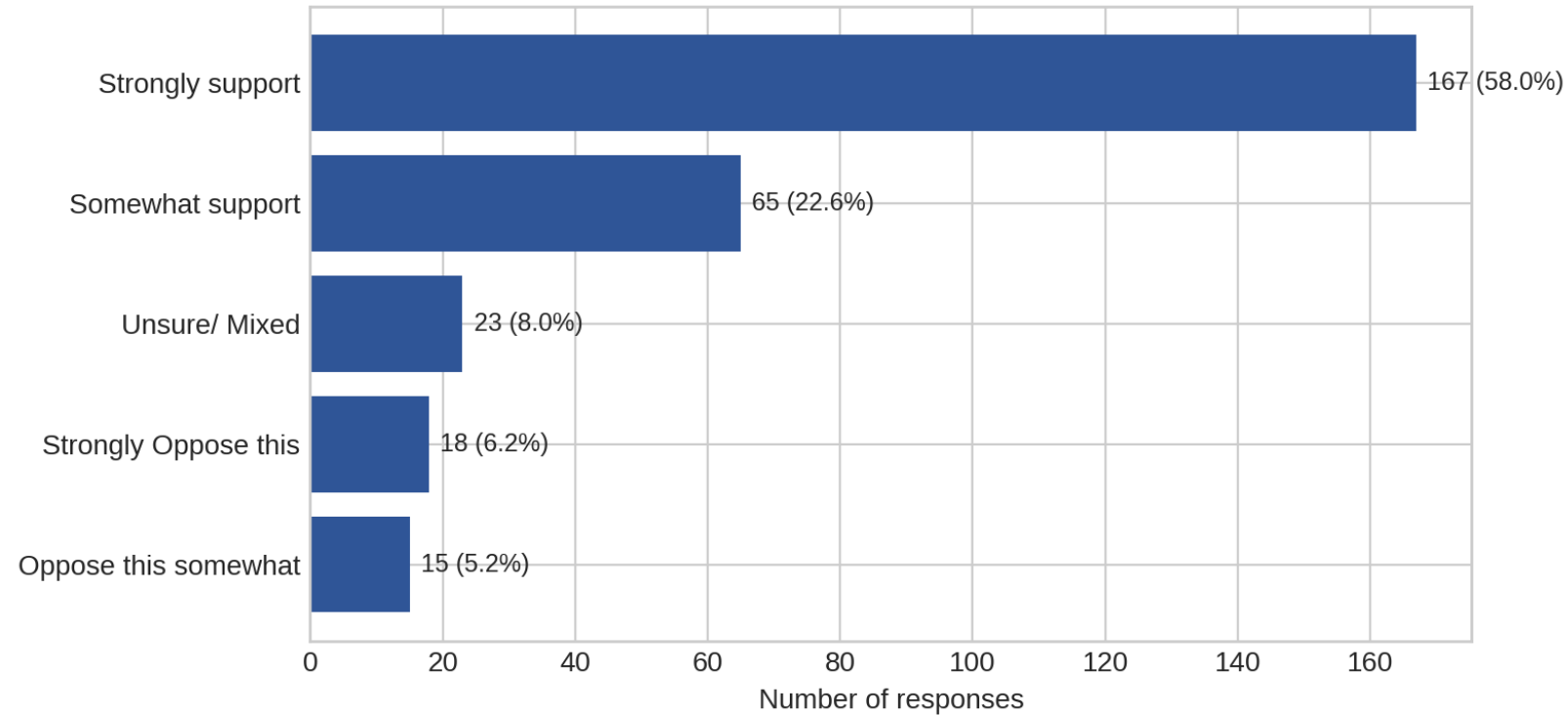
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Results of Parent/Carer Survey

Support for stricter restrictions during school hours (Years 7–11)



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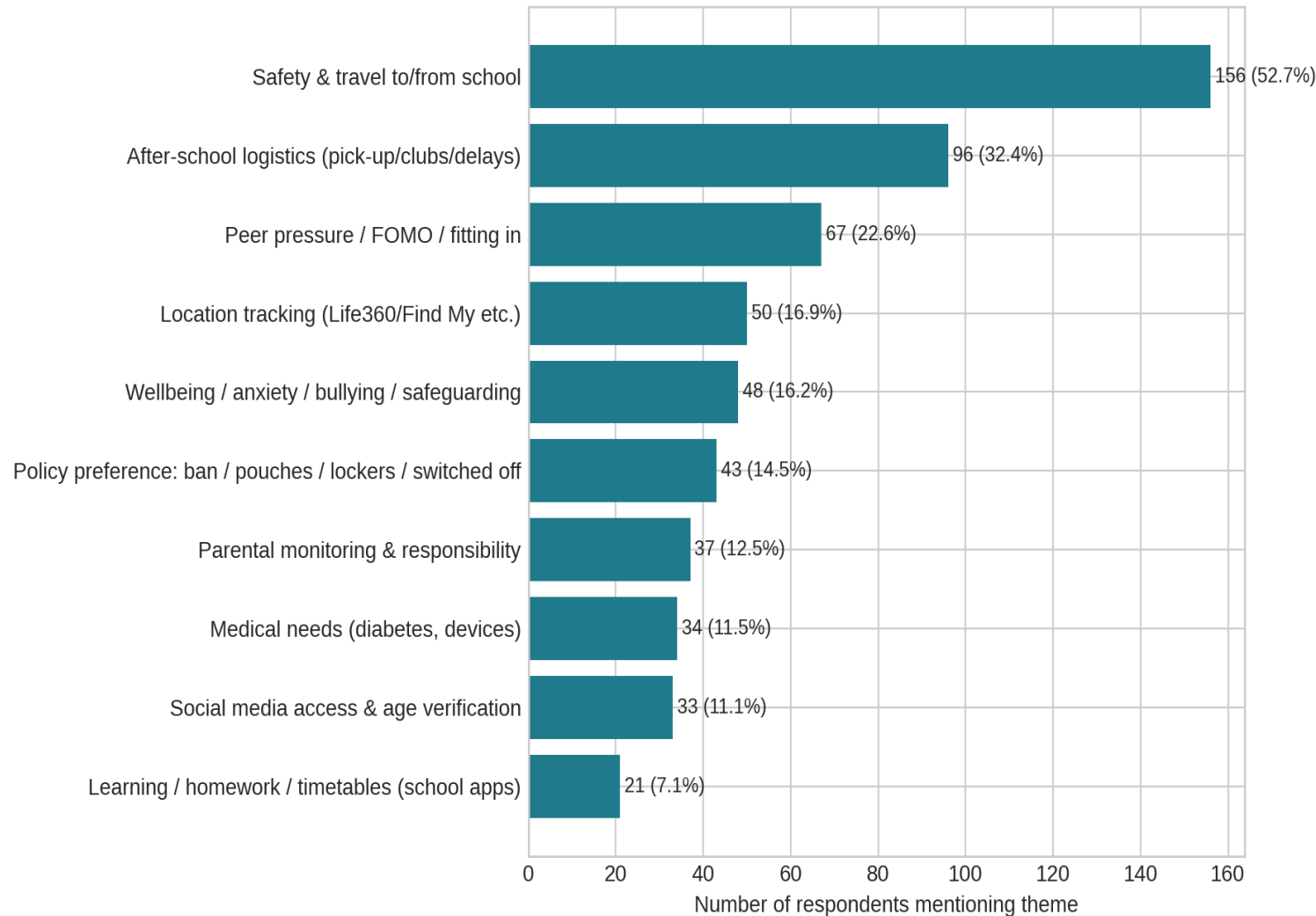
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Results of Parent/Carer Survey

Top themes from open text responses (auto-coded)



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What can we do to have an effective phone-free school?

Can we move from a permissive ban to an effective ban to make Stratton School a genuinely phone-free school?



How would the system work at Stratton?



Pouch

During arrival, students turn off phones and place them inside the pouch under staff supervision



Lock

Close the flaps and push the lock button. Students then put their locked case in their bag.



Unlock

Tap the black knob against the magnet and the lock releases in less than a second



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Why?



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Why?

A Better Learning Environment for All

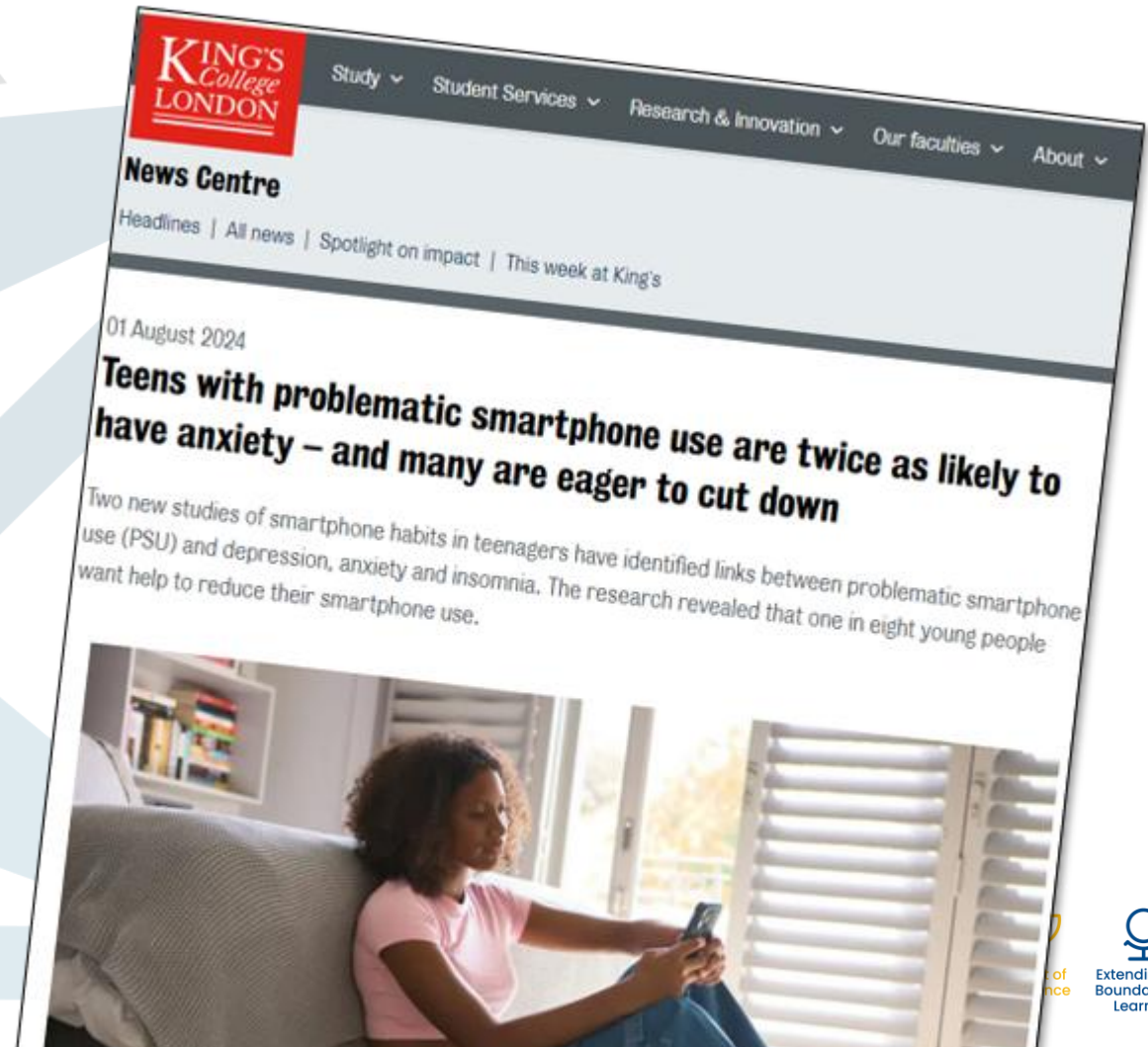


Image Credit: Svda Productions



Why?

Supporting Mental Health of Students



Statutory guidance

- [Mobile phones in schools - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/statutory-guidance/mobile-phones-in-schools)
- Mobile phone-free by default
- Schools are expected to prohibit mobile phone use throughout the entire school day (lessons, breaks, lunch).
- Clear school policy required
- Every school should have a behaviour policy that includes rules on mobile phone use and expectations for pupils.
- Purpose: improve behaviour and focus
- Reduces distractions, supports learning, and helps prevent issues like bullying and disruption.
- Consistent enforcement by staff - All staff should apply the rules consistently; pupils should understand consequences and sanctions.
- sanctions are allowed - Schools can confiscate phones if rules are broken.



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Why?

Reducing Secondary Related Behaviours

In the schools we have visited, school leaders have observed:

- A dramatic reduction in toilet visits during and in-between lessons
- Reduced instances of cyberbullying / 'mugs' / filming in school
- Reduced internal truancy



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Non Compliance?

What happens if a mobile phone is seen outside the pouch?

- If a mobile phone is confiscated, it will be held in school for **three full school days**. For example, a phone confiscated on a Friday will be returned to the student on Wednesday at 3:10pm. This approach is in line with other schools within our Trust. While some schools locally and nationally apply longer or more severe sanctions, we believe this is a proportionate and appropriate response. Parents will be informed whenever a confiscation occurs.
- Our intention is not to focus on the sanction itself, but rather on the important benefits of reducing access to phones and screen time during the school day, allowing students to remain fully engaged in their learning over a sustained period.

Do schools have the right to confiscate phones?

- Yes. This is supported by Department for Education guidance on *Searching, Screening and Confiscation*. [Searching, Screening and Confiscation](#)

In Summary

Can I....		Can I...	
Use my phone to and from school		Use my phone to check my blood glucose level	
Use my phone on a trip that is after the school day ends		Use my phone on a fixture after school	
Use my phone to check my timetable		Get my phone back if confiscated for an 'emergency'	
Use my phone to call my family during the day		Refuse to hand over my phone if confiscated	
Use my phone in clubs after school		Not bring my pouch to school	



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