



The Lewis School/Yr Ysgol Lewis

Phone Free Learning Policy/Polisi Dysgu

Heb Ffonau

2026-2027

Signed (Chair of Governors)	
Signed (Headteacher)	
Reviewed (date)	January 2026
Readopted (date)	January 2026

The Lewis School Mobile Phone Policy

Our Phone-Free Learning Ethos

The Lewis School: responding to the learning, emotional and wellbeing needs of young people.

PHONE FREE learning FREEDOM to learn

- **F – Fulfil Potential**

We stay focused and distraction-free, so everyone can thrive.

- **R – Ready to Learn**

We come prepared—mentally and emotionally—to make the most of every lesson.

- **E – Everyone Together**

We build connection and community by being present with each other.

- **E – Engaged**

We give our full attention to learning and relationships.

Introduction

At The Lewis School, we are committed to creating a calm, respectful, and distraction-free environment where all pupils can thrive. As part of this commitment, we operate **Phone-Free Learning** across the school day.

This approach supports our TEAM values of **Togetherness, Engagement, Accountability** and **Motivation**.

The Welsh Government, via the Keeping Learners Safe guidance, emphasises that schools have a duty to: educate pupils about **online safety**, have **clear mobile phone policies** and ensure children's mobile phone use does not **compromise wellbeing, safety or inclusion**.

1. Expectations

- **Gate to gate-** once a pupil enters the school site, phones are not allowed. This includes before school, after school, break and lunch time.
- Pupils are **strongly encouraged not to bring mobile phones or wearable technology** to school.

- If a phone or device is brought to school, it must be **switched off** and **kept out of sight** from the moment the pupil enters the school gates until they exit at the end of the day.
- **No use of phones, smartwatches, earbuds, or any similar device** is permitted during lessons, breaktimes, or lunchtimes.
- **No filming, photography, social communication or media use** is permitted on school grounds. (The GCSE Photography cohort only will have special permission to use their devices whilst working and under supervision)
- Sixth form will be able to use their phones in sixth form learning spaces/common rooms only, not classrooms/yards/corridors.

2. Consequences of Breach

- Any phone or device that is **seen or heard** during the school day will be **confiscated immediately**.
- The device will be **returned on one occasion only** at the end of the school day, for all other offences it will be returned when **collected in person by a parent/carer or guardian**.
- **No exceptions will be made** to this procedure.

3. Responsibilities and Communication

- The school accepts **no responsibility** for the loss, theft, or damage of any phone or wearable device brought onto school premises.
- Pupils who need to contact home during the day can do so via the **pastoral or main school office** with staff support.
- Parents who need to contact their child during school hours should do so through the **school office or pastoral team**.

This policy is reviewed annually and applies to **all pupils**, including those with additional needs, unless an **individual development plan** or **reasonable adjustment** is in place and agreed in advance with SLT.

During the months of transition between the Ystrad site and Pengam site, these rules will be consistently applied at both locations.

Further Details

Pupil Safety and Support

We understand that for many pupils, mobile phones provide a sense of security and may be used on the way to and from school to pay for transport, access maps, and communicate home. Our policy operates with a gate to gate structure, therefore phones can be used beyond our site as pupils and families deem appropriate.

If a phone is needed for any of the above reasons, it must stay at the bottom of a bag once inside the school gates. It must be turned off, **not in pockets/waistbands or concealed** anywhere other than the bottom of a school bag.

Pastoral Support and Communication

All pupils will be supported by an extensive team who can provide quick and accessible information to parents/carers from pupils and vice versa.

Main Office- the main office has a team of staff available before the school day starts on 01443 873873.

Pupil Care and Support Officer- Lower School (Year 7-8), Middle School (Year 9-10) and Upper School (Year 11-13) are supported by a PCSO who is non teaching and available throughout the day to support home-school communication. Our team of PCSOs will share their information with parents/ carers via email/ class charts and telephone.

It is a parent/ carer's responsibility to keep school up to date with contact information changes as well as to sign up to our school Class Charts system. [ClassCharts Parent App](#)

In the event of an emergency, the headteacher will communicate with parents via email and/or Classcharts announcements as soon as it is safe to do so.

Pastoral Support Structure

Head of School	
Pastoral Progress Leader	Wellbeing and Support Coordinator
Pupil Care and Support Officer	

Dealing with Incidents / Breach of School Rules

All classroom teachers, learning support assistants and adults with a duty of care for pupils will confiscate any mobile phones seen/heard or used on site. This includes any audible phone notifications.

The rules will be emphasised daily and very clearly signposted around the school buildings. There will be no exceptions to this.

To support parents/ carers, for **one offence only** we will allow pupil collection of a confiscated device at the end of the school day. Any further breaches of the school rule will result in device collection by a parent/ carer at the end of the school day. This information will be tracked and monitored.

Removing mobile phones from the classrooms and school sites allows pupils to thrive socially and academically. If a pupil disrupts the learning of others with their mobile phone, the pastoral team will communicate with parents/ carers and sanction according to the Behaviour for Learning Policy and Exclusions Policy.

In the event a parent/ carer is not able to collect the device, they can assign another adult to do so on their behalf. Otherwise, the phone will be locked safely until they are able to collect in person.

Any confiscated mobile phones or devices such as smart watches, air pods, headphones etc. will be stored safely and locked away by a member of staff. However, if pupils bring these items to school it is against our school policy and we accept no responsibility for the item.

Reasonable Adjustments- Pupils with Medical/ Additional Learning Needs

If a pupil has an ALN which requires Additional Learning Provision via an IDP, there may be consideration for reasonable adjustments. This will be discussed at a PCP meeting/ IDP review with a member of the Senior Leadership Team and/or Additional Learning Needs Coordinator.

Some pupils with medical needs such as diabetes use a device to monitor their health, this can be discussed with the Head of School and supported within school.

This policy is a working document as we respond to the needs of our pupils and the increasing demands of internet and smartphone reliance. It will be updated annually and shared with pupils, staff and parents/ carers. If you are interested in consulting with the school on this topic please contact us.