

Thursday 24th September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Yondr Pouches: Routine Compliance Checks

As you know, this academic year we introduced Yondr pouches to support a phone-free learning environment. We have been delighted with the positive impact this has had across the academy. Students are benefiting from fewer distractions in lessons, increased engagement with learning, and more positive social interactions throughout the school day.

The overwhelming majority of students have embraced the system and use their Yondr pouches responsibly. To ensure that the policy continues to be applied consistently, fairly and effectively for all students, we will be carrying out routine and occasional random compliance checks throughout the year.

Students will be informed of this through our weekly form-time bulletin and understand that these checks form part of the academy's normal procedures.

What will the checks involve?

We would like to reassure parents and carers that these checks are quick, respectful and straightforward.

As part of the checking process, staff may carry out checks to verify that mobile phones are secured correctly within Yondr pouches and that pouches have not been damaged or tampered with. Where necessary, students may be asked to confirm the contents of their pouch or to verify that they are not carrying a mobile phone outside of their Yondr pouch.

The purpose of these checks is not disciplinary. They are a sensible and proportionate way of maintaining a system that is helping to create a calmer, more focused learning environment for all students.

Reminder of Our Mobile Device Policy

As outlined in our Mobile Device Policy, routine Yondr pouch checks may be carried out by Heads of Year, pastoral leaders and members of the senior leadership team during form time, breaktimes, lunchtimes or at other appropriate points during the school day.

Students may be selected at random or where concerns about compliance have been raised. During a check, a student may be asked to accompany a member of staff briefly with their pouch so that staff can confirm that a mobile phone is secured within the pouch, that the pouch is functioning correctly and that academy expectations are being met.

These procedures help ensure that all students are adhering to the same expectations and that the benefits of the Yondr system are experienced by everyone.

As with any reasonable school procedure, students are expected to cooperate fully with staff requests. In the rare event that a student refuses to participate in a check, parents/carers will be contacted and invited to support the academy in resolving the matter. Where a check cannot be completed, the academy may apply sanctions in line with the Behaviour Policy.

Working Together

We greatly appreciate the support of parents and carers in helping us maintain high standards and an environment where every student can learn free from the distractions associated with mobile phone use.

Our approach is rooted in safeguarding, consistency and creating the very best conditions for learning. All checks will be conducted professionally, respectfully and in accordance with academy policies and safeguarding procedures, with students' dignity, wellbeing and safety remaining paramount at all times.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the academy.

Yours faithfully,

TEAM OSCA

Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy