

7th October 2025

Dear Families,

Just a reminder to purchase your child's Yondr pouch, if you haven't yet done so, by Friday 17th October. We will be looking to issue these after Half Term with the aim to becoming a mobile phone free site by November. Thank you to all those who have already purchased one.

A reminder that:

- Students in receipt of **Pupil Premium funding do NOT need to purchase a pouch**. These will be provided for your children free of charge.
- Students with **diabetes** will be issued with a special medical pouch **free of charge**.
- For this year only, as we roll out this initiative across the school, families with more than one child at school should **purchase 1 pouch**. We will fund the additional pouches for siblings at Altwood.
- We would also like sixth form students to purchase a pouch but they will have access to an unlocking station so they can use their phones in their study periods and whilst in the Sixth Form Common Room.
- Year 11 and 13 students will be able to 'sell' their pouches back to the school at the end of the year for £10 if they are in excellent condition.
- If you are struggling to afford the £18 please get in touch and we will do everything we can to support.

I include below an article from the most recent edition of Schools Week which highlights the need for schools to do more than having 'not seen not heard' policies for phones and recent calls on Ofsted to fail schools on safeguarding grounds if mobile phones are accessible during the school day.

We appreciate your continued support as we work together to improve the mental health of our young people by removing the pressure of mobile phones during school hours.

Please get in touch if you have any questions or need support to purchase a pouch.

Best wishes



Cath Harden
Headteacher