



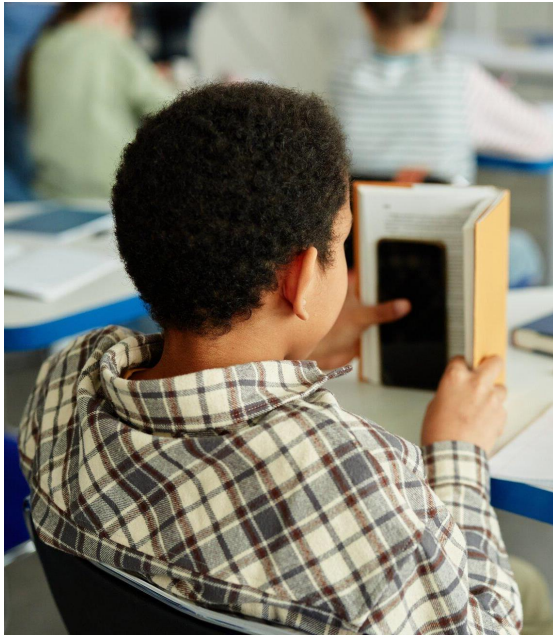
**THE
COWPLAIN
SCHOOL**

Y O N D R

THE COWPLAIN SCHOOL

PARENT PRESENTATION

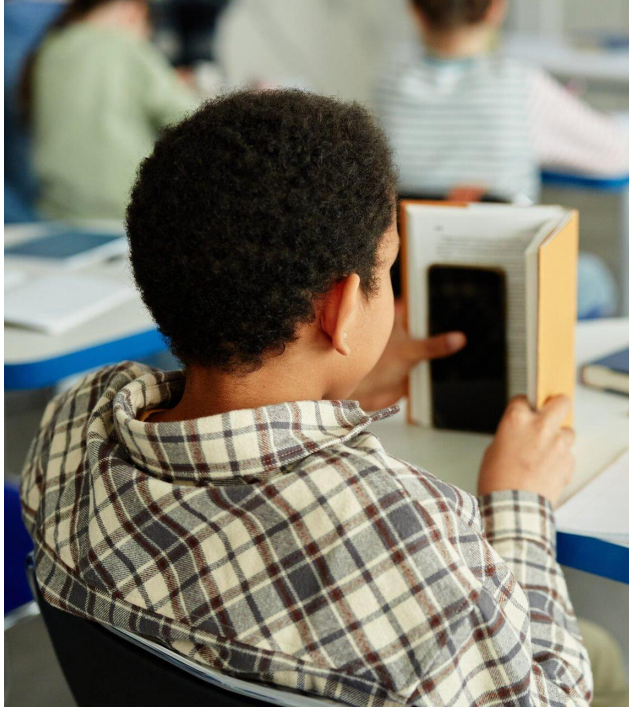
WE ALL WANT THE BEST FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE.



- Maximise focus & learning
- Improve wellbeing
- Strong friendships
- Safe environment
- A calm, positive school culture



WE ALL WANT THE BEST FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE.



- Maximise focus & learning** – no phone distractions in class
- Improved wellbeing** – less pressure from social media during the school day
- Stronger friendships** – more face-to-face conversations
- Safer environment** – less cyberbullying & misuse of phones
- A calm, positive school culture** – more engagement, less stress

OUR PHONE-FREE SCHOOL

From September, our school will be using the Yondr Programme to make our site phone-free.

We will be using a system called Yondr which has been implemented across 40+ countries to facilitate an engaged learning environment.

Every student will be assigned a personal Yondr Pouch. While the Yondr Pouch is considered school property, it is each student's responsibility to bring their pouch with them to school every day and keep it in good working condition.

This decision reflects both our own experience at Cowplain and the direction of national guidance from the Department for Education, which expects schools to operate as phone-free environments by default.



**TODAY, WE ARE
DISCUSSING...**

1 - WHY ARE WE GOING PHONE-FREE?

2 - WHAT IS YONDR?

3 - HOW WILL IT WORK?

4 - RESULTS

5 - FAQs

**HOW MANY HOURS DOES A
TEENAGER SPEND ON THEIR
PHONE EACH DAY?**

7+ HOURS



HOW DOES SCREEN TIME IMPACT MY CHILD?

Brain Shrink

Heavy social media usage shrinks areas of the brain linked to memory and focus. *Achterberg et al - 2022

Dopamine Crash

There is a correlation between the amount of hours scrolling and less ability to be able to enjoy real life. *Ying - 2025

Anxiety Trigger

4+ hours a day on screens doubles risk of anxiety and depression in teens. *Leung - 2021

Lonely Scroll

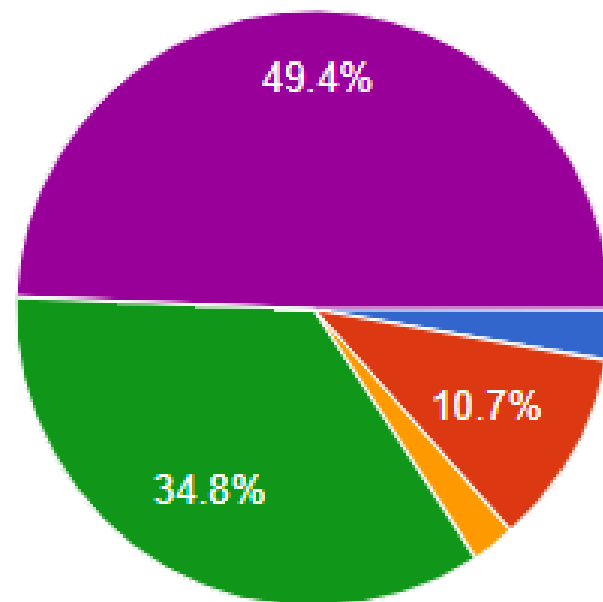
More time spent online is linked to feelings of loneliness. *Zhang et al - 2025

2. Which of the following do you think would work best for managing mobile phones during the school day?

 [Copy chart](#)

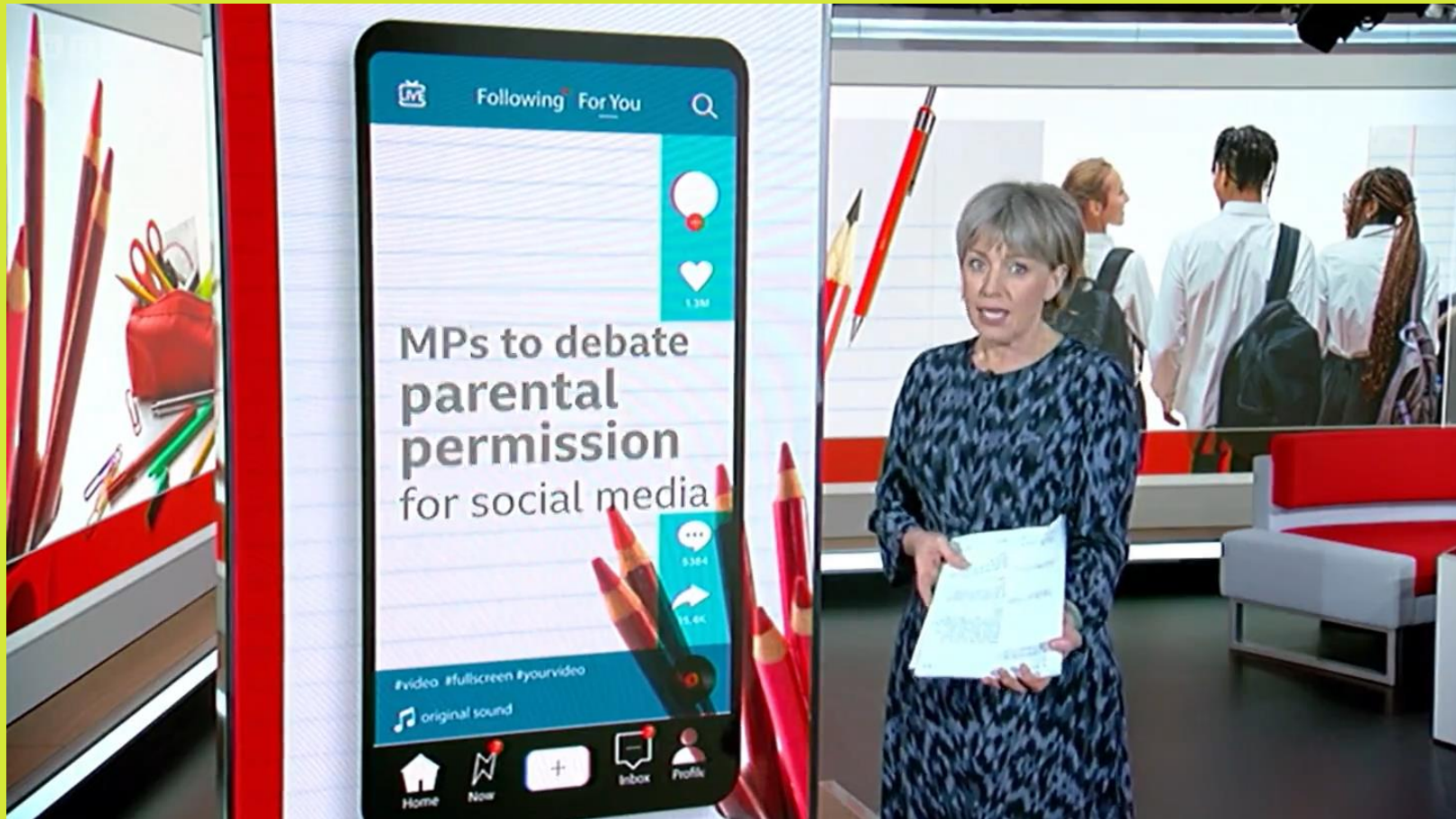
(Select one)

253 responses



- Phones should not be brought into school
- Phones should be stored in a student locker during the school day
- Phones should be handed in at the start of the day and collected at the end
- Phones should be kept in a locked pouch, on the student.
- Not sure.

TO KEEP PHONES OUT OF SIGHT, MOST STUDENTS EITHER WOULD LIKE POUCHES, OR ARE NOT SURE. (MARCH 2026)



WATCH THE YONDR PROGRAM IN ACTION

SCHOOLS WHO HAVE IMPLEMENTED YONDR SAY:

“ No class disruption, no teacher time wasted on it and, most importantly, the children are not having their head space filled with the phone going off...

It's been a total gamechanger and the students know why we are doing it: because we care about them, their well-being and their concentration.

Alison Colwell - Balearas College

“ We no longer have any in school cyber bullying

Russell Stevens, John Hanson

“ Transformational. It has changed the school... There is so much more noise but it's good noise. It's the sound of students talking to each other instead of looking at phones.

Damian McBeath, John Wallis Academy

ARRIVAL DEMONSTRATION

YONDR

- Phone is turned off as they enter school. No student should be on their phone at any time from arrival to the end of day bell.
- Students ensure pouches are unlocked once they have entered school. Phone is switched off, and put in pouch.
- Pouch is locked under the supervision of a teacher. Period 1, part of register.

Top of the pouch is closed
Green button is pushed in to secure.



DISMISSAL DEMONSTRATION

Y O N D R

- After the school bell, students go to an unlocking station (There will be 13). The pouch is tapped on the unlocking base on the side with the green circular ring.
- As the pouch is tapped the button should be pushed to release the lock.
- Phone is retrieved and the pouch is closed back up. Pouch kept until next day.
- Students remaining on site may not use their phones, on the school site. (Just stay, or unlock, leave, text, lock, return. Then unlock again and leave)



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

PROCEDURES

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS NOW?

- National guidance now expects schools to be phone-free.
- We have listened to staff.
- We have listened to parents.
- We have spoken with students.
- We have updated our policy.
- We believe this is the right step for our school.

PROCEDURES

**WHAT HAPPENS IF I NEED TO
REACH MY CHILD DURING THE
SCHOOL DAY?**

We want students to be engaged as much as possible in their learning. If you need to contact your child during the school day, please contact the main office who will take the appropriate action.

The school is then able to control when this message is passed on to be the least disruptive for your child in class.

PROCEDURES

**WILL MY CHILD'S PHONE BE
SAFE?**

Students are in possession of their phone - in their Yondr pouch - for the entire school day. It is not routinely collected by the school .We believe this encourages responsibility whilst removing distraction. Students should store the pouch safely in their bags.

We will provide ID cards to go inside the pouches.

PROCEDURES

**WHAT IF THE POUCH IS
DAMAGED, LOST, OR STOLEN?**

If a student damages or loses their pouch, school staff will collect the phone/pouch and send it to the front office for the remainder of the school day. Each student will receive one Yondr pouch. Replacement pouches are issued through school and may incur a replacement charge

Examples of damage include:

- Bent pins
- Deep scratches on the plastic globe and the surrounding green ring
- Intentional pen marks on the inside
- Pin and button not fully recessing
- Cut/torn pouches

PROCEDURES

**WHAT HAPPENS IF A
STUDENT UNLOCKS THEIR
POUCH WITHOUT PERMISSION,
DAMAGES IT, OR USES AN
ALTERNATE PHONE?**

Students who deliberately attempt to bypass the system will receive significantly more serious sanctions.

Pouch checks are an important part of the Yondr Program. We want to ensure that students understand that checks can be done at any time.

Students soon understand that it's better to keep phone in pouch rather than risk confiscation or disciplinary action

PROCEDURES

WHAT HAPPENS IF A STUDENT FORGETS THEIR POUCH?

If a student forgets their pouch, they must have their phone stored in the office for the school day. The phone will be returned to the student at dismissal. The student will have a detention.

If a student forgets their pouch on more than 2 occasions in a term will have an hours detention on a Friday. If a student consistently forgets their pouch, it will be considered lost.

Parents/guardians will be notified, and a replacement pouch may need to be paid for.

PROCEDURES

**WHAT HAPPENS IF A STUDENT
FORGETS TO OPEN THEIR POUCH
AT THE END OF THE DAY?**

We do not think this will happen. All students funnel past the unlocking stations at the exits, they want their phones back and don't forget to unlock their pouches. If they do arrive home with a phone in a pouch, they can either come back to school to unlock it or have a phone free evening!

PROCEDURES

**WHAT IF THERE IS AN
EMERGENCY AT THE SCHOOL?**

Mobile phones have been shown to cause distraction during emergencies. Students become concerned with texting parents and other peers to find out what is going on rather than listening to the adults who are guiding them through emergency procedures.

If there is a schoolwide emergency staff have access to portable unlocking stations and will support the students in unlocking pouches when it is safe to do so.

WHAT ABOUT BUSES?

13 unlocking stations and staff on hand. We will monitor closely.

Y O N D R

WHAT ABOUT TRIPS?

Trip leader decides, communicated with parents in advance.

WHAT ABOUT MEDICAL NEEDS?

Students with an approved medical need will be issued with a medical Yondr pouch.

WHAT IF MY CHILD DOES NOT OWN A PHONE?

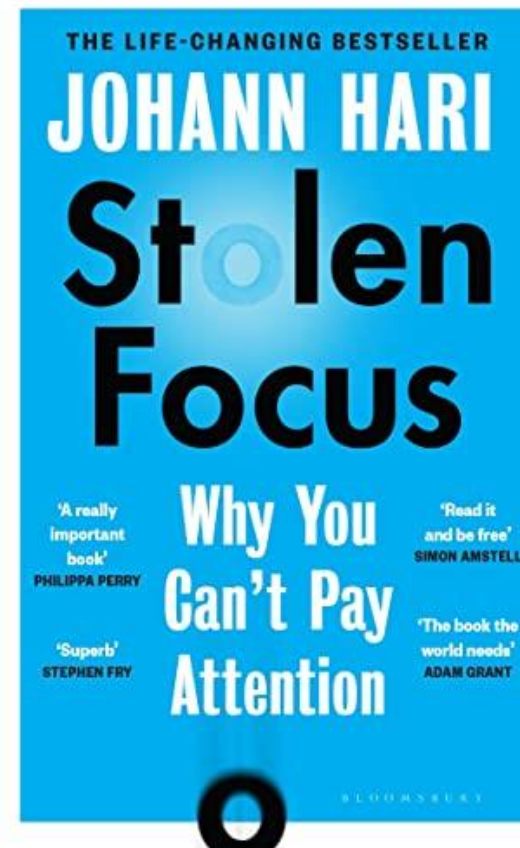
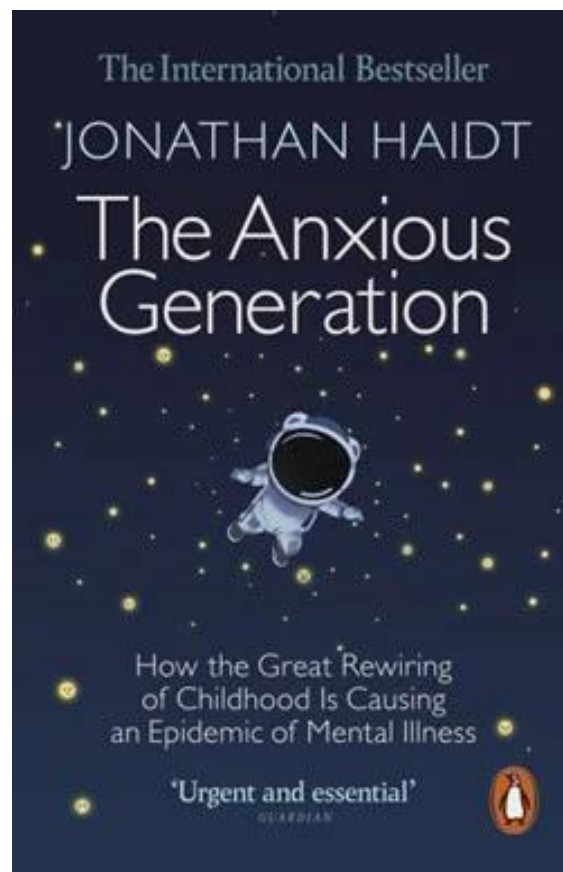
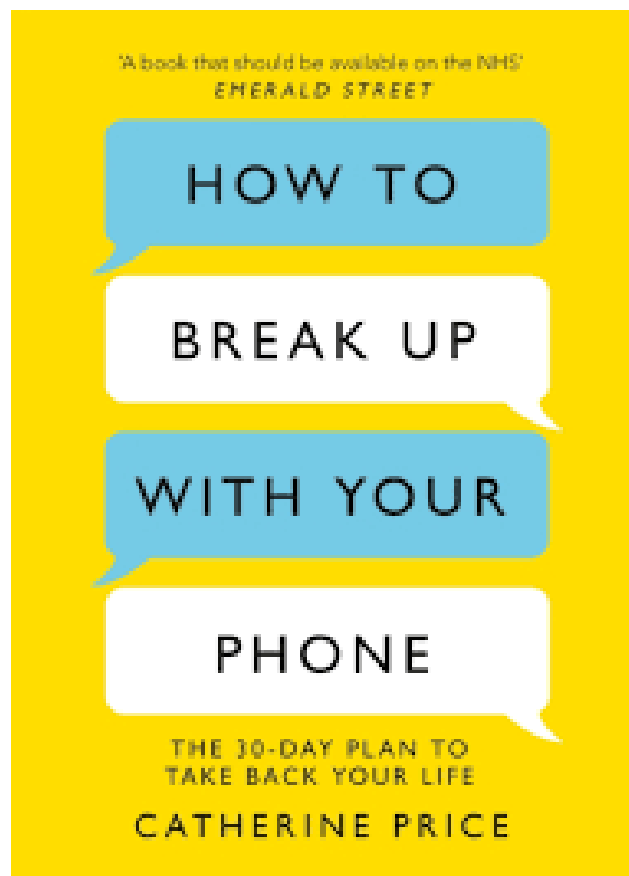
Brilliant! These students will still have a pouch. There will be a declaration form to confirm.

WHAT IF RECEPTION NEEDS TO CONTACT ME?

Nothing changes, we will contact parents as we do now.

ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS?

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER READING



OUR AIM:

We are introducing Yondr because we believe our students deserve to spend the school day learning, talking, laughing and building relationships without the constant distraction of smartphones.

We know there will be an adjustment period, but schools across the country have shown that students adapt quickly. We are confident this will have a positive impact on our school community and thank you for your support.

