

LMS Music Centres – Our Mobile Phone Agreement

As we start the new Music Centre year, we have made a small change to the way we manage mobile phones. We wanted to explain why, so that everyone understands what to expect.

Why are we making a change?

Until now, we have allowed young people to use their mobile phones at Music Centre, including during breaks and between rehearsals. We recognise that this has been part of how our Music Centres have operated and that this is therefore a change to what pupils and families may be used to.

From September 2026, we are changing our approach.

The Government has introduced new statutory guidance for schools in England around the use of mobile phones. Schools are now expected to provide a mobile-phone-free environment throughout the school day, including lessons, breaktimes, lunchtimes and the time between lessons. The guidance is intended to help reduce distraction and disruption, support children's wellbeing and relationships, and create calmer environments where children and young people can focus and engage with those around them.

Although this guidance applies specifically to schools and the school day, we have thought carefully about what this means for our Music Centres.

Our Music Centres take place in a range of schools and other venues across Lincolnshire. We want to respect the expectations of the schools and venues that welcome us, while also making sure that our approach is consistent across all of our Music Centres.

Most importantly, we want Music Centre to be a place where everyone can **put their phones aside, concentrate on their music, spend time with friends and enjoy being part of a group.**

For these reasons, **mobile phones should not be used during Music Centre sessions, including during breaks and between rehearsals.**

We know that this is a change, and we appreciate your support in helping us make it work.

This is not about saying that mobile phones are a bad thing. We understand that they are an important part of everyday life and that many young people will need to have their phone with them, particularly when travelling to and from Music Centre.

It is simply about creating a period of time where we can all **switch off from our phones and switch on to music!**

Our expectation

When you arrive at Music Centre, your mobile phone should be switched off and kept safely away for the whole time you are attending.

This includes **rehearsals, breaks and any time between sessions.**

This means:

- 📱 Your phone should be **switched off**, rather than simply put on silent.
- 🎵 Phones should not be used during rehearsals **or during breaks and time between rehearsals.**
- 🚫 This includes messaging, social media, photographs, videos, games, music and other phone use.
- 👤 We respect the privacy of other young people and staff by **not taking photographs or recording people without permission.**
- 🏠 We follow the expectations of the school or venue where our Music Centre takes place.
- ❤️ We help each other to have a positive experience by being **present, focused and ready to make music.**

What if my family needs to contact me?

We understand that families sometimes need to get in touch with their child.

If there is an emergency or something important that your family needs to communicate, please contact your **Music Centre Lead**

The Music Centre team will make sure that an important message reaches you.

If you have a particular reason why you need access to your phone during a session, please speak to your Music Centre Lead. We will always listen and consider individual circumstances and any support that may be needed.

Looking after your phone

Your mobile phone is your responsibility. Please make sure that it is safely stored and switched off when you arrive.

LMS cannot accept responsibility for personal mobile phones or other devices that are lost, damaged or stolen.

Our Music Centre promise

When I come to Music Centre, I will:

 **Be present** – I will put my phone away so I can concentrate on making music and enjoy spending time with others.

 **Be respectful** – I will respect other people's privacy and the rules of the venue.

 **Be safe** – I will use technology responsibly and speak to an adult if I have a concern.

 **Be part of the team** – I will give my attention to the music and the people around me.

Switch off your phone. Switch on to music! 

Thank you for helping us to make Music Centre a positive, welcoming and enjoyable experience for everyone.

We can't wait to make music with you!