

26 January 2026

Dear

ATISN 26610

Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on 22 January 2026, in relation to mobile phone use in schools. You asked for information on:

1. How many schools in Wales operate a 'no phone' policy and have introduced the 'Yondr' phone locking system?
2. How much does introducing the 'Yondr' phone pouch locking system cost? This information as a breakdown to the pouch costs, locking mechanism and total cost.
3. Who pays for the 'Yondr' system?

On another topic regarding schools across Wales, you ask for information on:

4. How many schools have a 'lockdown policy'? (The latest information as of January 2026)
5. How many schools have practiced this policy?
6. How many schools (primary and secondary) had a lockdown policy before April 2024?

Our response

Following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that the information you require is not held by the Welsh Government.

In response to question 3, above. If a school chose to adopt the Yondr system, they would need fund that provision through their individual budget. However, if this approach was mandated by the local authority, it is likely that funding implications would need to be considered at that level.

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely,