ABINGDON

CODE OF BELONGINGS

All pupils in the school community should follow this code. It is designed to reduce the possibility of theft or accidental loss. More generally, it is intended to help foster an atmosphere in which everyone may feel secure and trusting.

1. RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR PROPERTY

(a) It is the duty of all pupils to make sure that their belongings are marked clearly and permanently. The marking should be distinct, so as to make it easy to return lost property. Your name and postcode are among the most useful details to record.

(b) Valuable items should be kept out of sight and out of reach.

(c) Bicycles should always be securely locked with a strong chain, and left only in the bike sheds.

(d) Wherever possible, valuables should be kept on your person. Musical instruments should be kept safely in the Music School or next to you. Do not leave any valuable belongings in bags, open lockers or in clothes hanging changing rooms in the Sports Centre. Hand your valuables in for safe-keeping, or secure them in a lockable locker.

(e) Bags should either be carried with you or left in an authorised place such as a common room. If left elsewhere, they are liable to be impounded by a prefect.

(f) Report any loss immediately, in all cases, to a member of staff. Give any helpful details. The best chance of recovering your property is to report the loss immediately. You should also tell a member of staff when your property has been found.

(g) The School cannot be responsible for each pupil’s personal property. Pupils and their parents are advised to take out appropriate insurance for personal items as required.

2. A SENSIBLE AND CAREFUL APPROACH TO PROPERTY

(a) Please do not bring expensive or desirable belongings to School unless it is absolutely necessary.

(b) Do not play casually with other people's belongings, or attempt to play jokes by removing or hiding them.

(c) Do not 'borrow' someone's belongings without first of all asking permission; this may be treated as theft.

(d) Hand in any lost property which you come across to a member of staff or - if possible - to the owner. 'Finding' someone else's belongings and failing to return them is a form of theft.

3. THEFT

(a) Tell a member of staff if you have reason to believe that a theft has taken place, or if you hear anything about it. All members of the School have a responsibility for a decent level of social behaviour and all need to contribute towards the positive atmosphere in the School.

(b) This sense of responsibility should include trying to deter anyone you know who may be tempted to steal, and persuading someone who has stolen something to return it. It is, in the end, very much in the interests of anyone you consider a friend that you should try to prevent him from doing anything so self-destructive as stealing.

(c) If theft is suspected and initial investigations at the School do not result in the return of the taken property, then it is likely that the police will be notified.

4. LOST PROPERTY

If you have lost an item of property, you should go to the Lost Property points to try to find it:

- In Boarders' Hall (lost property from teaching blocks)
- Sports Centre (Sports' Centre lost property)
- Faringdon Lodge (property left on buses or at sports pitches)

Deputy Head (Pastoral)
Last Review: November 2025
Next Review: November 2026