



We recognise that mobile phones can be essential for communication and safety. However, we've observed that their use can sometimes disrupt our school environment and compromise the safety of our pupils. To address this, we are introducing a new mobile phone policy. This will begin from Tuesday 22 April 2025 and allows for exceptions for students, who need to use a phone to manage a medical condition.

We understand that some children may need to walk to and from school alone as they prepare for secondary school, but we expect only students in Year 5 and 6 to do so. We do not recommend that children younger than Year 5 walk to school alone. Meeting your child at the gate rather than the classroom door is fine but please make sure you speak to your child about what to do if you are not there to meet them. In school we remind pupils regularly to return to the school office if a parent is not there to meet them at an agreed place.

If your child wishes to bring a mobile phone to school, they must have a valid reason, such as walking alone. Pupils who are dropped off and collected by parents/carers do not need a phone in school. The reason for your child having a phone needs to be documented in the permission request form attached to this email. Once a parent has signed this form and it is approved by the school, your child may bring their phone. This will begin from Tuesday 22 April.

All children's phones must be switched off at the school gate and handed to their class teacher at the door of the classroom. Staff will keep phones until the end of the day in their cupboards when they will be returned to your child. Pupils may not turn on their phones until they have left the school premises, this includes being off the playground and during after school clubs and events. This policy is in place to ensure responsible and appropriate phone use during school hours.

We also want to remind all children that they must follow these rules regarding phone usage. Failure to do so may result in confiscation of the phone and could lead to restrictions on bringing phones to school in the future. Any phones that are confiscated will be kept in the school office and will need to be collected by a parent.

We appreciate your understanding and support to help us maintain a focused, productive and safe learning environment for all pupils. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher.



Mobile phone permission form 2024-2025

Please note this guidance does not apply to pupils who use their phones for medical purposes, e.g. diabetic apps.

Guidance

We believe that primary children do not need mobile phones or smart watches connected to a contract during the school day. Our office is a source of contact to/from home for emergencies should they arise. On this basis: You may request that your child brings a mobile phone (preferably not a smart phone) into school if:

- They are in Years 5 or 6 only OR if they walk to/from school alone.
- Even with permission, your child may only bring the phone in on those days where they walk alone.
- Children who are dropped off and collected from the school boundary do not need a mobile phone as they will be supervised by an adult/older sibling who could have a phone. (We instruct all children not to leave the school site until their adult collects them or to return to the school office if their adult does not arrive).
- For safeguarding purposes, children should not be using mobile phones at all on the school site. Once on the school grounds the mobile device should be switched off and not switched back on until leaving at the school gate.
- Once in school, the mobile should be given to the class teacher and then put in the class safe box. They will be returned at the end of the day.
- We reserve the right to remove phones from children if they are not handed in as above. In the event of this, parents will be contacted to collect their child's phone from the school office.
- For incidents where a child has not followed this policy or has endangered the safeguarding of others, we reserve the right to withdraw permission to have a mobile phone in school.

Smart watches connected to a contract are not permissible.

Please complete the form below. We will respond by returning a copy of the form to you with a response.

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Child's name | |
| Parent / Carer | |
| Reason phone is needed | |
| Contact number | |

*to be completed by school:

Approved by _____

Date