



Mobile Phone Policy

Excellence for All

Policy reviewed/updated	July, 2024
Next update	July, 2027
Committee	Finance & General Purposes
Executive Headteacher	Mr Ben Waldram
Chair of Governors	Mr Pete Cumberland

Revision date	Author of changes	Summary of changes
July 2024	Ben Waldram	Changed dates, included e-safety curriculum sentence



Fernwood Primary and Nursery School

Mobile Phone Policy – Children’s Use

Rationale

As a school we recognise that mobile phones are very much part of everyday life. Also, as a school we fully recognise that children’s use of mobile phones in everyday life is finally the decision of the child’s parent(s) or guardian(s). At school and on the school premises, the Executive Headteacher and Governing Body decide upon the children’s use of mobile phones.

In all we do, we have a duty to teach children to be responsible in their use of all technologies. We do not wish to say that a child cannot bring a mobile phone to school but we are making the process and procedure for doing so, very clear in this policy.

We are also fully aware of the safeguarding dangers presented by mobile phones. We teach the children all about dangers online from Foundation 2 to Year 6 in an ‘age and stage’ appropriate level and we attempt to guide and inform the children’s understanding of IT and technology (including the use of phones) through our carefully-structured e-safety programme. We have also considered safeguarding within our process and procedures.

Process and Procedures

Children in Year 6 are allowed to bring a mobile phone into school if:

- A parent completes the form (available from the office) to say that it is necessary for their child to bring a mobile phone to school. For example, this may relate to home/school travelling arrangements;
- If a member of SLT agrees with the parental request then the Year 6 pupil will then be allowed to bring the phone into school daily or for an agreed length of time;
- The phone must be brought to the junior office by the child as they arrive at school and collected as they leave the building and site. The phone must not be used on site in any way at all e.g. texts, calls, taking photos, internet access, filming;
- The phone must be switched off when it is handed in and it must be labelled with the child’s full name; and
- The phone must not be left in a school bag or brought into the classroom.

If any of these rules are broken, then the parents of the child concerned will be contacted and the agreement for the child to bring the phone to school will be reconsidered. The outcome may be that the child will no longer be allowed to bring their phone to school.

Please also be aware that if the school is shown evidence that a child/group of children have used social media outside of school in a way which is upsetting to another child in our school community e.g. insulting texts, creating unpleasant images, inappropriate film/video clips, sexting then a member of SLT will contact all parents involved, insist on the removal of the text or images and deliver appropriate, in-school sanctions. This is part of our duty for dealing with relevant matters which take place outside of school and the school day, as set out in our Behaviour Policy.

Please also be aware, in order to safeguard the children, **all adults are not to use their mobile phones whilst on site** unless given permission to do so.

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