

Fernwood Primary and Nursery School



**Mobile Phone Policy - Children's Use
June 2022 for use from September 2022**

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 guardians. At school and on the school premises, the Executive Head Teacher 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, age and stage appropriately and we attempt to guide and inform their IT and social media activity. We have 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 attached to say that it is necessary for their son or daughter 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 he/she arrives at school and collected as he/she leaves the building and site. The phone must not be used on site in any way at all eg 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
- 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 his/her 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 eg insulting texts, creating unpleasant images, inappropriate film/ video clips, sexting, 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.**

Policy to be reviewed June 2024