

Mobile Technology (Smartphones & Watches) Policy



Part of the

Oak 
Learning Partnership

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	3.9.26	Sarah Watt	Amendments to clarify the agreement with mobile phone policy rather than Acceptable Use Policy.



Mobile Technology

Mobile technology is changing the way and speed in which we communicate. They can provide security and reassurance; however, there are also associated risks. Children and young people need to understand these risks in order to help them develop appropriate strategies for keeping themselves safe.

With the evolution of mobile and wearable technology including camera facilities as standard, it is of the upmost importance that the way we deal with mobile phones and wearable devices in school, is planned for. Our aim is to:

- Support other policies, especially those relating to safeguarding and child protection
- Promote and set an example for safe and responsible device usage
- Set clear guidelines on the acceptable use of devices

The policy aims to address some of the challenges posed by devices such as:

- Risks to child protection
- Data protection issues
- Potential for disruption in lessons
- Risk of theft, loss or damage

Pupils

Smartwatches and other similar devices are not allowed in school. This is because they are a distraction and may interrupt learning. Mobile phones are only allowed to be brought in by pupils in Year 6.

Parents

Unsworth Primary School accepts that parents give their children mobile phones to protect them from everyday risks involving personal security and safety. It is acknowledged that providing a child with a mobile phone gives parents reassurance that the child can contact the parent if they need to speak to them urgently on their way to or from school.

In the light of these circumstances Unsworth Primary School has established the following policy for mobile phones that provides parents and pupils with guidelines and instructions for the appropriate use of mobile phones during school.

While we acknowledge a parent's right to allow their child to bring a mobile phone to school, Unsworth Primary School discourages pupils from bringing one to school.

1. Parents and pupils must read and understand this policy before they are given permission to bring mobile phones to school.
2. The Mobile Phone Policy applies to pupils during school hours on the school site. Mobile phones are not permitted on school trips or residential visits.
3. If parents need to contact pupils for any reason during the school day this should be done via the school office and not via a mobile phone.
4. Only pupils who have written permission from their parents are entitled to bring mobile phones to school. We advise parents to only request permission for pupils who walk to and from school on their own. **This request is only available to Y6 pupils. Please complete the attached permission slip if you wish your child to use his/her mobile phone and return it to your class teacher.**
5. If pupils bring a mobile phone to school, the phone must be switched off and handed into the class teacher until the end of the day, and it will then be kept in the school office until hometime.
6. Any mobile phone seen on the school premises being used at an inappropriate time will be confiscated immediately by a member of staff until the end of the day. At this time, it will be the responsibility of the parents to collect the phone from school, NOT the pupil. If a pupil is found taking photographs or video with a mobile phone of anyone, this will be regarded as a serious offence and disciplinary action will be taken including a meeting with parents.



USE OF MOBILE PHONE

PERMISSION SLIP

Name of child: _____ Class: _____

- My child needs to bring a mobile phone to school as he/she walks to/from school without an adult.

I accept that the school cannot be held responsible for the security of my child's mobile phone and understand that if the phone is used inappropriately at school, the phone will be confiscated immediately and I will be responsible for collecting it from school.

Signature of parent or carer _____

