



# Mobile Phone Policy 2026-2028

Date of last review: January 2026

Date of next review: January 2028



**Purpose:**

The widespread ownership of mobile phones among young people requires that school administrators, teachers, pupils and parents take steps to ensure that mobile phones are used responsibly at school. This Acceptable Use Policy is designed to ensure that potential issues involving mobile phones can be clearly identified and addressed, ensuring the benefits that mobile phones provide can continue to be enjoyed by our pupils. Mobile phones are considered banned items unless used in accordance with this policy and as such can be confiscated.

Weston Park Primary School has established the following Acceptable Use Policy for mobile phones that provides teachers, pupils and parents guidelines and instructions for the appropriate use of mobile phones during school hours.

Pupils, their parents and guardians must read and understand the Acceptable Use Policy before pupils are given permission to bring mobile phones to school.

The Acceptable Use Policy for mobile phones also applies to pupils during school excursions, residentials, day trips and extra-curricular activities.

Use of mobile phones presents a number of problems, including:

- Mobile phones can be valuable items and might render a pupil vulnerable to theft;
- Mobile phones (and their costs and level of sophistication – or otherwise) can make pupils objects of envy or disparagement and could have implications with regard to discipline and potential bullying;
- Use of the newer phones with integrated cameras could lead to child protection and data protection issues with regard to inappropriate capture, use or distribution of images.

**Parents and other visitors:**

- We request that parents do not use mobile phones in the school building or grounds.
- Mobile phones must never be used to take photographs in the school building or grounds.

**Children****Rationale:**

Weston Park Primary School accepts that parents give their children mobile phones to protect them from everyday risk involving personal security and safety. There is also an increasing concern about children walking to school alone or travelling alone on public transport. It is recognised that providing a child with a mobile phone doesn't make them safe but rather gives parents and pupils reassurance that they can contact each other if they need to speak urgently.

**Responsibility:**

Mobile phones should not be brought to school. School advises all parents to discourage pupils from bringing mobile phones to school on the grounds that they are valuable and may be lost or stolen.

Permission to have a mobile phone at school while the child is under the school's supervision is dependent on the Headteacher and parent/guardian permission in the form of a signed copy of this policy and will only apply to children in Year 5 and Year 6. The school or parent/guardian may revoke approval at any time.

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During school hours, the phone must remain switched off and will be kept in classroom in a secure locked place. It will be taken in at morning registration by the teacher and handed back to the child at the end of the school day. Mobile phones may not be used for any purpose on school premises, grounds or during off-site school activities, unless agreed by the Headteacher or other senior teacher i.e. for emergency use only.

Parents should be aware if their child takes a mobile phone to school.

Where a child is found, by a member of staff, to be in unauthorised possession of a mobile phone, the phone will be confiscated from the pupil and returned to the parent or guardian.

This policy is linked into the school's positive behaviour policy. The school will treat breaches as they would treat any other breach of school rules in accordance with the positive behaviour policy

### **Acceptable Uses:**

Mobile phones should be switched off and kept in the classroom (in locked space) when on school premises.

Pupils should protect their phone numbers by only giving them to friends and keeping a note of who they have given them to. This can help protect the pupil's number from unwanted messages and calls.

Pupils are advised not to use their mobile phones as they walk to and from school, unless there is an emergency, so that they are paying full attention to crossing roads and to avoid any potential theft.

### **Unacceptable Uses:**

Unless express permission is granted by the Headteacher, mobile phones should not be used to make calls, send SMS messages, surf the internet, take photos or use any other application during school time.

Using mobile phones to bully and threaten other student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. In some cases it can constitute criminal behaviour.

Using mobile phones to photograph or film any child is unacceptable.

Use of social media sites to harass or bully pupils is unacceptable.

### **Theft or Damage:**

Parents/guardians should mark the pupil's mobile phone clearly with their names.

Pupils who bring a mobile phone to school should NEVER leave it in their coat/bag when they arrive at school. Mobile phones will be kept in the classroom in a secure locked place.

The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones whilst on the school premises.

The school accepts no responsibility for pupils who lose or have their mobile phones stolen while travelling to and from school.

We do however recognise that there may be parents/guardians who wish to use their mobile phone camera facility to take photographs of their child while performing in special assemblies or events. At all such events the school will point out that images taken must be for personal use and that no image should be used inappropriately nor placed on-line on social networking sites or personal websites.

## Mobile Phone Policy Consent Letter

I request permission for my child .....Year .....Class .....  
to bring a mobile phone into school.

The reason for this request is:

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I have read and understood the School's Mobile Phone Policy and accept that the school accepts **NO** responsibility for loss or damage to the phone whilst on school premises. I understand that the phone will be switched off and kept in the classroom in a locked secure place during the school day.

My child's phone is:

Make: .....

Colour: .....

Signed: ..... (child)

Signed: ..... (parent)

Dated: .....

Authorised by Headteacher :

Signed: .....

Dated .....