



Mobile Devices Policy



Policy Date	January 2025
Consulted	Parents/Carers, Staff, Pupils
Date of Next review	January 2026

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Fernielea School

Mobile Devices Policy

Introduction

The recent [Scottish Government guidance on mobile phones in Scotland's schools](#) encourages schools to have clear and shared guidance on the use of mobile phones / devices in schools. Here at Fernielea, we have long had an unwritten agreement that pupils should not bring mobile phones to school, with a system in place to store phones for pupils choosing to bring a phone for safety reasons. However, this guidance has been produced to bring clarity of expectation for our whole school community, including for other devices such as smart watches and tablets.

Mobile devices (phones, smart watches and other devices)

We believe that there is no need for pupils to have a mobile phone, smart watch or other device in school, and therefore these should not be brought into school. Parents/carers who need to pass on a message can do so by calling the school office. The office staff will happily relay the message. In the same manner, pupils who require to contact a parent can ask for a telephone call to be made. They should speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team who will arrange for a call to be made if it is for a valid reason.

Following a recent parent/carer and staff survey, almost all respondents agree with this position. Some parents and staff have shared that there may be reasons why pupils need to bring a mobile phone, such as for safety reasons when travelling to and from school.

Links to other policies / initiatives in school

All pupils / parents have signed Aberdeen City Council acceptable use of digital technologies agreements for school. This policy aims to uphold the rules and values set out in this agreement.

Our school position of no mobile phones / devices also supports us in promoting an anti-bullying and online safety culture within our school and links with our core value of being **safe**.

Almost all of our school community consulted, believe that mobile phones / other devices serve as a distraction in a primary school environment and can lead to instances of disrespect when used inappropriately.

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Mobile device etiquette

As a school, we recognise the need to consider individual circumstances. Should pupils need to bring a mobile phone to school **for safety reasons only (e.g. they are making a journey to / from school without an adult)**, they must hand this to their class teacher on entering their class at the beginning of the day. They can then collect this from the class teacher at the end of the school day.

Phones being brought to school for these reasons should be **switched off** on entry to the playground in the morning and should remain off until pupils leave the premises. Adults are on site if help or assistance is required.

Furthermore, our school position is that no smart watches or other devices should be brought to school. We provide a range of digital technologies to support learning and teaching, including iPads and Chromebooks / laptops.

Mobile phones brought to school by pupils for safety reasons are stored in secure drawers/cupboards in the classroom. Please note that we take no responsibility for these, including in the event of loss / theft or damage. Parents choosing to send their child to school with a mobile phone for safety reasons take full responsibility for this.

Pupils who are found with an unauthorised device in school will be spoken to by a member of our Senior Leadership Team. The phone will be taken away and kept until the end of the school day for a parent to collect.

Adults should not use personal mobile devices to record or photograph children within the school grounds.

Support and further guidance for parents / carers

Parents / carers can find support and guidance on the use of mobile phones / devices at the following links:

- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#): Advice for parents and carers on phones
- [Parent Club Scotland](#): Setting parental controls on mobile phones / devices.
- [Parenting Smart](#): Advice for parents on accessing Social Media
- [NSPCC](#): Advice on how to support children at different ages with the use of technology