

2023-2026

**MOBILE
PHONES
STAFF AND CHILDREN**

Focus: DCS Schools & Settings

VERSION: 1

PUBLISH DATE: 14th February 2024

Strategy Document Number 14

PRIMARY CHILDREN

Mobile Phones and Technology with image taking capacity (eg Apple Watches) are not permitted for use at any time within the primary school.

If parents permit children to use these items on the journey to and from the school, the Head Teacher and school staff bears no responsibility for the safety of the device whilst on school grounds.

SECONDARY CHILDREN

Mobile Phones (and any form of electronic device including Apple Watches etc.) are allowed in school but are switched off and out of sight throughout the school day unless the teacher allows their use for an educational purpose.

Should any student wish to use their phone during the school day (but not during lesson time) then they are only allowed to do so at reception after informing the office staff of who they are calling and why.

SCHOOL STAFF

To protect our children, staff working in schools and settings during the directed day are not permitted to make or receive calls or texts. All of our schools and settings are Mobile Phone Restricted Areas. Staff should ensure that personal mobiles are set to silent or off at all times whilst in any learning environment or around the school or setting fenced premises. No personal mobile device should be left on display at any time.

Staff are not permitted to use recording equipment on their personal mobile phones for any reason. Staff can not use any personal device to photograph children at any time.

Some members of staff may be allocated a duty mobile phone for off site visits or residential activities. These phones will be on throughout the time away from the school or setting to ensure calls, text messages and emails can be taken and responded to in a timely manner. Staff can not use duty phones for any personal calls or to record / photograph children – regardless of the situation.

Notes

1. Staff who use Google or Apple watches are to follow the same guidance as mobile phones at all times.
2. The directed day is classed as any time in a school or setting where children are or could be present.
3. Please see Education & Care Strategy, Development Aspect 1: DCS Educator – Mobile Phone Statement for detailed procedures.