



HAMILTON
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mobile Phone Policy

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At Hamilton Primary School, we believe that school should be a calm, safe, and supportive environment conducive to teaching. In line with Department for Education guidance, Hamilton is a mobile phone-free environment by default. We recognise that while technology can provide opportunities, mobile phones in the school environment can be a distraction to learning, a risk to wellbeing, and a catalyst for online bullying.

Aims of the policy

- Foster an environment of deep focus and engagement by removing digital distractions.
- Protect children's mental health and wellbeing from the detrimental effects of excessive screen time and social media during the school day.
- Ensure the safety of all pupils by minimizing the risks of unsupervised digital communication and online harm.

Objectives

- Maintain Hamilton Primary School as a mobile phone-free environment.
- Help children develop a healthy relationship with technology by setting clear boundaries between school time and personal device use.
- Ensure that staff and visitors set a positive example by not using personal mobile phones for personal reasons in front of pupils. (Although using them for MFA is allowed)
- Work collaboratively with parents to ensure the policy is understood and supported at home.

Expectations

- **Default Position:** Pupils are not permitted to have mobile phones in their possession during the school day. **The school's view is that if parents/carers would like children to have a phone we suggest that they have a 'brick' phone, not before the last half-term of year 6.**
- **Arrival at School:** If a parent/carer deems it necessary for a child to carry a phone for safety on their journey to and from school, the phone must be switched off as soon as inside the school gate and handed to the class teacher or upon arrival in the classroom.
- **Storage:** Phones will be kept in secure storage in the class until the end of the school day.
- **Smart Technology:** This policy also applies to other communications and smart technology with similar functionality, such as smartwatches that can send/receive messages or record audio/video.

Exceptions

- **Medical Needs:** Exceptions may be made for pupils who require a mobile device for essential medical monitoring (e.g., diabetes management). These must be agreed upon in advance with the headteacher and documented in a personal care plan.
- **Safeguarding:** Specific arrangements may be made for pupils with identified safeguarding needs where a device is essential for their protection.

Assessment and Sanctions

- Any breach of this policy will be handled in accordance with the School's Behaviour and Relationships Policy.
- If a pupil is found with a mobile phone during the school day, the device will be confiscated and kept in the school office for collection by a parent/carer.
- Repeated breaches will result in further disciplinary action and the permanent loss of the privilege to bring a phone onto school premises.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The implementation of this policy will be monitored by the Governors. In line with updated national standards,