



Information about walking independently and mobile phones

Thursday 4th September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Walking independently to and from school.

We are looking forward to welcoming the children back tomorrow. In order to keep all children safe at Meridian, we are required to update our home time arrangements. We know that some children in Year 5 and 6 will be starting to walk to and from school on their own or with their friends. This decision is up to you but the school needs written consent from all parents and carers regarding these arrangements for your child.

Keeping children safe in and out of school is our priority at Meridian therefore, we ask that you send an email to the year group your child is in (year5@meridian.e-sussex.sch.uk / year6@meridian.e-sussex.sch.uk) stating that you give permission for your child to arrive on the school premises independently (no earlier than 8.30am please) and leave the school premises independently at 3.15pm.

For children who are collected by an adult, this does not need to be completed.

To help us identify the emails quickly, please put **‘walking independently’** as the subject. **Without written consent, your child will not be able to walk home independently at the end of the school day and a member of staff will need to contact you via telephone.**

Mobile phones

Our current school policy that only children that are walking to and from school independently can bring a mobile phone into school. We review this every year as part of our commitment to keep children safe as we regularly deal with issues in school from inappropriate messages on different social media apps or message services.

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MERIDIAN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

Learning for Life



We would strongly encourage children not to bring expensive smart phones into school to avoid inappropriate behaviour before and after school when they are not supervised.

Our expectations are that once the children are on school premises, that all mobile phones must be switched off and in their school bag. If children are seen or reported to be using their phones on the school site, this might result in a confiscation (asking parents to pick up the phone from the school office), a fixed term ban or even a permanent ban from bringing their phone into school.

If children are using their phones inappropriately on their way to or from school, parents will be informed. If this impacts on any child's safety, behaviour or well-being in school, this might result in a confiscation (asking parents to pick up the phone from the school office), a fixed term ban or even a permanent ban from bringing their phone into school.

Once in school, children's phones are collected by the class teacher and these are stored safely throughout the school day in the school office.

Please note, the school cannot be held responsible for any theft or damage to your child's phone when in school or on school premises. It is at parents/carers risk to allow children to bring their mobile phone into school.

Thank you for your support in helping to keep children at Meridian safe.

Kind regards,

Mr Barcock
(Assistant Headteacher)

Mrs Martin
(Year 5/6 Phase Leader)

Miss. Hales
(Y6 teacher)

Mr. Clayton
(Y5 teacher)

Miss. Spencer
(Year 5 teacher)

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