



Cherry Orchard Primary School
"We care, we learn, we succeed"



Cherry Orchard Primary School
Use of Mobile Phones and Wearable Technologies Policy

Date approved by governors: September 2026
Member of Staff Responsible: Emma Emery (Deputy Head teacher)
Review Date: September 2027
Consultation:

To be read in conjunction with the Online Safety Policy and the Travelling To and From School Alone Policy.

Ethos Statement

At Cherry Orchard Primary School the safety, welfare and well-being of our children is very important to us. Therefore, this policy on the use of mobile phones in school and wearable technology, such as smart watches, has been drawn up in the best interests of our children and staff. This policy applies to Cherry Orchard Primary School. Through its RHE curriculum, pupils will be taught about staying safe online and how their information can be shared.

Protocol for Pupils

Only children who travel to and/or from school alone are permitted to bring a mobile phone into school. In the majority of cases, this will be Year 6 pupils (please see the Travelling To and From School Alone Policy).

We appreciate that some parents may wish to prepare Year 6 children for secondary school by giving them greater freedom to travel part or all of the way to and from school, and that providing a mobile phone may give re-assurance that their child is contactable and safe.

In this instance:

- Parents should either put their request for their child to bring a mobile phone in writing or request a consent form from the office.
- When children enter the school building, they must give their phone to a member of staff for secure storage*, **switched off**.
- The member of staff on duty will ensure the phone is put in a labelled bag and locked away until the end of the school day when the children can collect it.
- Phones are brought into school and left at their owner's risk.
- Mobile phones brought into school without written consent will be confiscated and must be collected by the child's parent.
- Phones are not permitted on school visits of any kind.
- Any child failing to take their mobile phone to the secure storage first thing in the morning will have the privilege of bringing one into school withdrawn.

- Children are not permitted to use the video, recording or camera function on their phone at any time when on the school site.

**secure storage is in the form of a safe.*

Parents and Other Visitors

- Parents and visitors are requested not to use their mobile phones in the school building or on school grounds.
- Mobile phones should not be used by parents to take photographs or recordings in the school building or grounds unless permission has been given by SLT for photographs at specific events such as celebration or class assemblies. Such photographs are for personal family use and are not to be posted on social media.
- We appreciate parental and visitor support in implementing this policy in order to keep our children safe.

Wearable Technology

Cherry Orchard Primary School has taken the decision to ban pupils from wearing smart watches where these devices are able to access the internet or make/take calls, messages or photographs. These items can be used as communication devices just like a mobile phone and go against our policy. Smart watches which only track steps as part of promoting a healthy lifestyle are permitted.

If you are intending to buy such a device for your child, please be aware that children will not be allowed to wear them at school if they are able to access the internet or make/receive calls. If a child is found to have wearable technology, then this will be treated in the same manner as a mobile phone.

Searching for mobile phones

Staff have a statutory power to search a pupil or their possessions where they have reasonable grounds to suspect that a pupil is in possession of a prohibited item.