



BINCOMBE VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY NURSERY

Mobile phone use in school Policy

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Safeguarding Statement: The school is committed to safeguarding children and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Equality Statement: We have carefully considered and analysed the impact of this policy on equality and the possible implications for pupils with protected characteristics, as part of our commitment to meet the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.

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Appropriate Governing Body Committee: Infrastructure Committee

Date: February 2024

Review Date: February 2026

Please note that the following policy applies to smart watches as well as to mobile phones.

1 Rationale

There may be a need for some children who travel alone for a long distance to and from school to have a mobile phone to use in emergencies and for the sake of protection and personal safety. This may be on a regular or a one-off exceptional basis.

For this reason, Bincombe Valley Primary School does not ban mobile phones completely.

However, only the older children (Year 5 and Year 6 pupils) will be given the opportunity to bring mobile phones in, as long as their parent/carer has completed a permission form (see below) and that the school has granted permission.

2 Responsibility for mobile phones

The school does not encourage pupils to have mobile phones in school; in fact, we strongly discourage pupils from bringing them in.

The school also takes no responsibility for mobile phones. Phones are brought in entirely at the owner's risk.

It is the responsibility of pupils to follow the rules for having a mobile phone in school.

3 Acceptable use

- Mobile phones should not be used on school premises by pupils.
- Phones should be switched off before handing them in to the school office at the start of the day.
- Mobile phones are **not permitted** on school trips or residential visits.
- Pupils remain responsible for their own phones if they bring them in to school.
- Pupils who do not have permission to have a mobile phone in school or who break the rules about their use will be required to hand their phone to a senior member of staff and parents/carers will be asked to collect the phone from the school office.
- Persistent flouting of the rules will result in permission to have a phone in school being removed.
- If a member of staff suspects that a mobile phone has unsuitable content stored on it, or that is being used inappropriately, the pupil will be required to hand their phone to a member of staff and parents will be contacted.

4 Appendix

DfE guidance February 2024

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mobile-phones-in-schools>