



Barley Fields
Primary School

**Mobile Phone Policy
Y5 and 6 Children
2023-24**

Original Date Issued:	September 2021
Policy Reviewed	August 2023
Prepared by:	Head Teacher
Next Review date:	August 2024
Date Adopted by Governing Body:	October 2021

The use of mobile phones (particularly with the advent of increasingly sophisticated equipment and camera phones) presents problems in school including:

- Mobile phones can be valuable items and might render a child vulnerable to theft;
- Mobile phones (and their cost and level of sophistication - or otherwise) can make children objects of envy or disparagement and could have implications with regard to discipline and potential bullying;
- Even when apparently silent, the use of mobile phones for texting purposes could be potentially undermining of classroom discipline and distract the child's learning.
- Use of phones with integrated cameras could lead to child protection and data protection issues with regard to inappropriate capture, use or distribution of images.

As a school we accept that it is not realistic to have a policy which completely prohibits children from having mobile phones in school but, our policy **strictly prohibits the unauthorised use by children of mobile phones while on school premises, grounds or off-site activities** (e.g. school swimming, sports activities or school visits).

This policy applies to children in Y5 and 6 only. All other children must not bring mobile phones to school.

School advises all parents to discourage children from bringing mobile phones to school. Children are only permitted to bring mobile phones to school when permission has been sought from the Head Teacher.

Parents will need to complete an online form agreeing to the school's **mobile phone use code of conduct** which will be kept on file for the academic year.

<https://forms.office.com/e/LRj8zWkcSp>

Once completed children may bring a mobile phone into school under the following strict conditions and guidance:

- There is a legitimate reason e.g. the child regularly walks home on their own;
- The phone **must remain switched off** during the school day and may not be used for any purpose (e.g. phoning, texting, surfing the internet, taking photos, checking the time, taking videos) on school premises or during school activities (such as school visits, swimming, sports activities).
- The individual child must **keep the phone secure and out of sight**.
- The school accepts no liability for the loss/damage of any personal equipment whilst on school premises;
- The camera on the phone is never used by a child to take photographs or video on school premises.
- Should parents/carers need to contact children in an emergency during the school day, or vice versa, this should be done following the usual school procedures: via the school office not using the mobile phone.
- **Where a child is found to be using or in the possession of a mobile phone without permission, the phone will be immediately confiscated** by a senior member of staff and will be securely stored in the main school office. An adult will be required to collect the phone at the end of the school day.
- The right to bring mobile phones onto school premises will be revoked (either temporarily or permanently) if a child fails to follow the rules of use.
- If a child is found taking photographs or video footage with a mobile phone of either other children or teachers, this will be regarded as a serious offence and disciplinary action will be taken according to the school's Behaviour Policy.
- If images of other children or teachers have been taken, the child's parents will be contacted and asked to discuss the matter with the Head Teacher. The phone will not be returned to the child until the images have been removed by the child in the presence of a teacher and their parents.

Mobile Phone Use – Year 5 and 6

Pupil Code of Conduct

2023-24



Child's Name: _____

Class Teacher: _____

I give permission for my child to bring a mobile phone to school. I am aware that the school accepts no liability for the loss or damage of any devices and accept that my child must abide by the following key principles when on school premises:

- The phone **will remain switched off and out of sight** during the school day.
- My child is responsible for the security of their phone.
- The phone must not be used for any purpose on whilst on school premises (indoor and outdoor) or during school-based activities (school visits, swimming, sports and social events).
- The camera on the phone must never be used by a child to take photographs or video on school premises. If a child is found taking photographs or video footage with a mobile phone of either other children or teachers, this will be regarded as a serious offence and disciplinary action will be taken according to the school's Behaviour Policy.
- If images of other children or teachers have been taken, the phone will not be returned to the child until the images have been removed by the child in the presence of a teacher. The child's parents will be contacted and asked to discuss the matter with the Head Teacher.
- Should I as a parent/carer need to contact my child in an emergency during the school day this will not be done via the mobile phone. All contact will be made following the usual school procedure: the main school office.
- If my child is found to be using or in the possession of a mobile phone without permission, the phone will be confiscated by a senior member of staff and will be stored in the main school office. An adult must collect the phone at the end of the school day.
- I accept that the right to bring a mobile phone onto school premises will be revoked if my child fails to follow the rules of use.

Signed: _____ parent

Signed: _____ child

This form is available electronically at:
<https://forms.office.com/e/LRi&zWkcSp>