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# MOBILE PHONE POLICY FOR PUPILS

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Approved by	Local Governing Committee
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## 1. Overview

Some parents and carers allow their children to have access to mobile telephones at home and in the community. There is typically no need for pupils to have a mobile phone on school premises, but we accept that there may be exceptional circumstances where parents and carers see a need for their child to carry a mobile phone on their journey to and from school if they walk alone. In these exceptional circumstances we will give permission for their child to bring a mobile phone onto school premises. Where this permission is given the pupil must comply with the requirements of this policy. Unless permission is granted, mobile phones must not be brought onto school premises by pupils. This policy aligns with the school's Safeguarding and Online Safety policies and reflects guidance from the Department for Education on managing mobile devices in schools.

The school reserves the right to review and update this policy in response to emerging technologies and safeguarding concerns.

## 2. Objectives

- To clarify the school position in relation to mobile phones.
- To ensure that mobile phones are only brought onto school premises when permission is granted and the appropriate documentation completed.
- To keep children safe and to guard the privacy of pupils and staff, especially when mobile phones have the capacity to take photographs and record video.
- To ensure that photographs are not taken and that video recordings are not made of adults and pupils.
- To ensure that on school premises pupils have only safe access to the internet.
- To ensure that education is free from interruption and disruption caused by mobile phones.
- To promote responsible use of technology and support pupils' digital wellbeing.
- To ensure compliance with statutory safeguarding requirements, including preventing access to harmful online content.

## 3. Strategies

- Pupils will not be allowed to have mobile phones on school premises or to take them on visits or other school-initiated activities unless permission has been given to do so by a member of the Senior Leadership Team.
- Parents and carers will be asked to sign a written agreement (Appendix A) saying that they will abide strictly to this policy and ensure that their child's phone has parental controls to limit its access to websites that are unsuitable for children.
- Mobile phones brought onto school premises or on activities or visits by pupils without permission will be confiscated and parents and carers will be required to visit the school to have the phone returned to them in person. Repeated breaches may result in further sanctions in line with the school's Behaviour Policy.
- Pupils, parents or other adults must not take pictures or make video recordings with mobile phones or with any other cameras or devices on the school premises without the headteacher's permission.
- Pupils who have been given permission to bring a mobile phone to school must switch it off and hand it in to the class teacher on arrival and seek its return at the end of the school day. Phones must remain switched off while on school premises.

- If any pupil has a need to contact his or her parents by telephone during the school day it must be done through the normal channels using the school telephone system.
- If any parent or carer needs to contact his or her child during the school day it must be done through the school telephone system.
- Whilst on school premises or school visits, pupils may only use the internet via the school computer system. Mobile phones must never be used on school premises to connect to the internet.
- During the school day, the phone will be kept in a cupboard in the school office.
- School do not accept responsibility to any damage or loss of phone when on the school premises.

#### 4. Outcomes

This policy will ensure that parents and the school, work in harmony to ensure the safety and privacy of pupils and staff. It will also ensure that the teaching, learning and education of pupils is not interrupted by mobile telephones. This policy supports the school's commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of pupils by reducing risks associated with mobile technology.

## Appendix A – Mobile Phone Policy - Permission Agreement

I have read and understand the Mobile Phone Policy of East Crompton St George's CE Primary School.

I agree to abide by the conditions set out in the school policy.

I understand that my child must not use the telephone on school premises.

My child will switch the phone off and hand it into the class teacher as soon as s/he arrives in school.

I will not hold the school responsible for loss or damage to the phone whilst it is on school premises.

I will ensure that there are appropriate parental controls on the telephone that restrict it from access to unsuitable and inappropriate websites and I will check the phone before it leaves home to see that it has only been used appropriately and contains no unsuitable or illegal content in its memory.

**I understand that any breach of this agreement may result in withdrawal of permission and further sanctions in line with the school's Behaviour Policy.**

**I confirm that the device has appropriate parental controls and filtering software installed.**

Name of Parent / Carer (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Carer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Pupil (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_