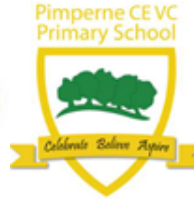


GREENWAY



PARTNERSHIP



10th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Introducing the Greenway Partnership Brick Mobile Phone Policy

The Greenway Partnership is a cluster of schools within the Hamwic Education Trust. It consists of Hampreston First School, Pimperne Primary School, Livingstone Road Infant and Junior Schools, Bishop St Aldhelms Primary School and Talbot Primary School.

In line with current Government guidance, the Greenway Partnership is committed to ensuring that every child enjoys a safe, nurturing and purposeful environment in which they can learn, grow and thrive. As part of this commitment, we would like to inform you that, from September 2026, all schools within the Greenway Partnership will introduce a **Brick Mobile Phone Policy**.

This means that pupils who need a phone for travel or family communication may bring a **basic mobile phone (often called a "brick phone")**, but smartphones will not be permitted in school except in approved exceptional circumstances.

Why are we making this change?

Over recent years there has been growing concern about the impact smartphones and social media can have on children's concentration, wellbeing, sleep, relationships and learning. Schools across the country are increasingly adopting phone-free approaches in response to national research and updated government guidance.

Our decision is based on four key priorities:

- Safeguarding children and young people.
- Improving focus and engagement in learning.
- Supporting positive wellbeing and mental health.
- Encouraging healthy face-to-face friendships and relationships.

Particular concerns include the use of WhatsApp and other group messaging platforms, which can:

- Expose children to content that is not age-appropriate.
- Create social pressure and anxiety through constant communication.

- Increase friendship issues and exclusion from group chats.
- Contribute to bullying, conflict and safeguarding concerns outside and inside school.
- Lead to distractions that impact learning and concentration.

We believe children learn best when they are fully present in lessons, actively participating in school life and engaging positively with those around them. Removing smartphones from the school day helps create calmer, more connected learning environments where children can flourish.

What is a brick phone?

A brick phone is a simple mobile phone that allows:

- Phone calls
- Text messages

These devices do not provide access to:

- Internet browsing
- Social media
- Apps
- Online gaming
- Video streaming services

They provide a reliable way for children to contact home without many of the risks associated with smartphones.

Examples of suitable devices include:

- Nokia 105 4G (non-camera version)
- AGM M9 4G
- Easyfone Prime A6 4G
- Maxcom MM135LITE
- Oakcastle F101

Alternative equivalent devices may also be accepted provided they meet the requirements of the policy.

What does this mean for pupils?

Children do not need to bring a phone to school.

Where a phone is required for travel or family reasons, only a basic brick phone should be brought onto the school site. Specific arrangements for storage during the school day will be communicated by individual schools within the Partnership to reflect their age range and operational procedures.

Smartphones must not be brought into school unless a formal exemption has been agreed.

What about medical needs?

We recognise that some pupils may require access to smart technology for medical monitoring or specific educational needs.

Appropriate exemptions will continue to be considered on an individual basis. If you believe your child may require an exemption, please contact your school's leadership team to discuss this further.

Tracking devices

We understand that some families use tracking devices to support their child's safety when travelling to and from school - they are to remain in school bags during the day. However, tracking devices which can access messaging, social media or online services are not permitted.

How will the policy be enforced?

As with all school policies, consistent implementation is essential. Any smartphone brought onto a school site without an approved exemption will be confiscated and parents or carers will be required to collect the device. Further details regarding procedures and sanctions are outlined in the Greenway Partnership Brick Mobile Phone Policy and individual school behaviour policies.

Our aim is not to punish pupils, but to establish clear and consistent expectations that support learning, wellbeing and safeguarding for all.

Working together

We appreciate that this may represent a significant change for some families. However, we are confident that this policy will have a positive impact on pupils' learning, wellbeing and school experience.

The success of this initiative depends upon a strong partnership between home and school. By working together, we can help children and young people develop healthy, balanced relationships with technology while protecting valuable opportunities for learning, friendship and personal growth.

Further information, including the full Greenway Partnership Brick Mobile Phone Policy, is available from your child's school. If you have any questions, please contact the school before the start of the Autumn Term.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

The Greenway Partnership Executive Team

On behalf of all Greenway Partnership schools