



THE RACKHAM
C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Pupil Mobile Phone Policy

Policy Number: SCH 004

Date: January 2024

The Rackham C of E Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment.

Introduction

As a general rule we would ask that parents discourage pupils from bringing mobile phones to school on the grounds as they are valuable and may be lost or stolen and they also present child protection/safeguarding issues.

However, we recognize that in year 5/6 mobile phones may have a part to play in securing pupils' personal safety on journeys to and from school. Our expectation is that in all other year groups, pupils will be dropped off and collected by an adult or responsible person.

Should a pupil need to contact their parents/guardians during the school day this will be done by the school office staff. Similarly, if parents need to contact their children urgently they should phone the school office and a message will be relayed promptly.

Restrictions

Due to the potential for not only loss of the item but also the use of the camera that most mobile phones now have to take unsuitable or unwanted photos that can be instantly sent to others creating a safeguarding issue, restrictions must be placed on mobile phones in school.

Before a child brings a mobile phone to school for the first time, a permission slip must be completed and signed by the parent – can be found in Appendix A. The phone must then be left with a member of the school office team at the start of the day. Please ensure it is handed directly to a member of staff not left on a desk. The phone will then be named, and safely stored away for the day. Only once the child has been let out at the end of the day may they then come to the office to collect their mobile phone.

Parents are advised that the school accepts no liability for the loss or damage to mobile phones which are brought into school or school grounds.

Mobile phones are not allowed to be taken on any school trips or visits.

Where a pupil is found to be using a mobile phone, the phone will be confiscated from the pupil, handed to a member of the office team who will record the name of the pupil and attach it to the phone. The mobile phone will be stored securely in the school office. The pupil may collect the phone at the end of the school day. If this practice continues more than three times, then the school will confiscate the phone until an appropriate adult collects the phone from a member of the senior leadership team (SLT).

If a pupil is found taking visual or audio recordings within school grounds, this will be regarded as a serious offence and disciplinary action will be taken. If an offence happens the phone will not be returned to the pupil until the images/audio have been deleted and removed from any platform where they may have been posted in the presence of a member of SLT and the child's parents or carers.

Should a pupil be found to be using their phone inappropriately whilst on school grounds, the school reserves the right to withdraw this privilege and they will no longer be able to bring a phone into school.

We ask that parents talk to their children about the appropriate use of messaging and social media in order to keep everyone safe.

This policy will be reviewed and agreed in line with Government guidelines by the Governing Body.

Approved and signed by:

Headteacher



Signed:

Date: 1st February 2024

Chair of Governing body



Signed:

Date: 1st February 2024

Appendix A

Mobile phone permission form

Name of child:

I give permission for my child to bring a mobile phone into school for the purposes of health and safety as they journey to and from school.

I agree that the phone will be handed into the school office at the start of the day and can be collected at the end of the day.

I agree I will inform my child that they may not use their phone under any circumstances during the school day and is not to be used to take photographs of staff or pupils at school.

I understand that this is entirely at our own risk and that the school accepts no responsibility for any loss or damage whilst the device is on school premises.

I also understand that the phone will be confiscated and I may be asked to come in and collect the phone if it has been used in breach of this policy.

Signed:

Print name:

Date: