

SS John & Monica Catholic Primary School

Mobile Phone and Smart Devices Policy 2026-27



Our Mission

'At SS John and Monica's we learn through the example of Jesus to love, respect, understand and value each other'

Mobile Phone and Smart Devices Policy

1. Purpose

This policy sets out the school's expectations regarding mobile phones and smart devices, in line with Department for Education guidance that **all schools should be mobile phone-free environments by default**.

The policy supports pupils' learning, behaviour, wellbeing and safeguarding, and helps ensure a calm and focused learning environment.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all pupils while on the school site and during school-led activities off site.

3. Policy Statement

SS John and Monica Catholic Primary School is a **mobile phone-free environment by default**.

Pupils should **not bring mobile phones or other smart devices** into school, including devices capable of communication, internet access, messaging, recording or photography (for example, smartwatches).

4. Limited Exception – Year 6 Independent Walkers

A small, tightly managed exception is permitted for **Year 6 pupils who walk to and from school independently**, where:

- Mobile phones may be brought **solely for use during the journey to and from school**
- Phones **must be handed into the school office on arrival**
- Phones will be **stored securely** during the school day
- Phones will be **returned to pupils at the end of the school day**
- Phones **must not be used** on school premises at any time

Smartwatches and other wearable devices are treated in the same way as mobile phones and are therefore not permitted in school

Parents and carers are advised not to allow pupils to wear smartwatches or other wearable devices to school.

No other exceptions are permitted without prior agreement from the headteacher.

5. Medical and SEND Exceptions

In exceptional circumstances, pupils may be permitted to have access to a mobile phone or smart device where this is required to support a **medical condition** or **significant SEND need** (for example, a device linked to monitoring a medical condition such as diabetes).

Any such exception must:

- be agreed in advance with the headteacher
- be supported by medical or professional advice where appropriate
- be risk assessed and documented
- be used **solely for the agreed purpose**

Where possible, alternative arrangements will be made to minimise any distraction to learning.

6. Breaches of the Policy

- Any mobile phone or smart device found in a pupil's possession during the school day may be **confiscated**
- Confiscated items may be returned **directly to parents/carers**
- Repeated breaches will be dealt with in line with the school's **Behaviour Policy**

7. Communication

This policy is communicated to:

- pupils through classroom expectations
- parents and carers via the school website and newsletters
- staff through policy briefings and induction

8. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or in response to updated national guidance.

9. Summary

SS John and Monica Catholic Primary School is a mobile phone-free environment by default, with a small, clearly defined exception for Year 6 pupils who walk to school independently and carefully managed medical/SEND exceptions, in line with DfE guidance.

Approved: [Date]

Review: [Annually / Date]