
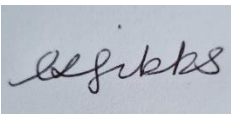




Mobile Phone Policy

Date: June 2026
Review date: September 2027

Signed:  (Chair of Governors)
Val Male

Signed:  (Headteacher)
Claire Gibbs

This policy provides guidance on how the use of mobile phones throughout the school day, including during lessons, the time between lessons, break times and lunchtime. Where the policy uses the word parent it should be read as inclusive of carers and any person with parental responsibility. References to mobile phones also refers to other communications and smart technology such as smart watches and tablets.

Prohibiting the use of mobile phones in school

Margaret Wix Primary Schools is a mobile phone-free environment.

Parents are asked not to use their mobile phones while on school site. Greet your child with a smile, not a screen.

Margaret Wix Primary Schools has a behaviour policy which is aligned with the school's legal duties and standards relating to the welfare of children. This is essential in establishing and maintaining high standards of behaviour ensuring that the school is a calm and safe environment for all pupils and staff.

Governing bodies and SLT ensure appropriate filtering and monitoring systems are in place and regularly reviewed, in line with keeping children safe in education, to prevent access to harmful or inappropriate content.

Only children in year 5 and 6 who walk home without supervision of a parent are allowed to bring a mobile phone to school. These children must hand their phone to the school office on arrival and collect it at the end of the school day.

Communicating the policy to pupils and parents

All of Margaret Wix Primary School's policies including this mobile phone policy and behaviour policy can be found on the school website under the 'policies' tab.

The role of staff

All staff consistently enforce the school's policy on the use of mobile phones.

Staff should not use their own mobile phone for personal reasons in front of pupils throughout the school day. There may be occasions where it is appropriate for a teacher to use a mobile phone or similar device, for instance to issue rewards or use multi-factor authentication. The Senior Leadership Team are clear with staff on the expectations around use of mobile phones during the day.

Expectations for pupils

All pupils should be clear on the school's policy on prohibiting the use of mobile phones and should be reminded of the policy, and the consequences and sanctions for not following it, at the start of each school year and again, where appropriate, at regular intervals.

Pupils will be taught the risks that are associated with the use of mobile phones, both in school and more broadly, to ensure they understand the decision being taken by the school to prohibit the use of mobile phones throughout the school day. These risks can include a loss of focus in lessons, classroom disruption and an increase in bullying.

The DfE's guidance on relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education provides further information on how to ensure that pupils are safe online, including how their information and data can be shared and how to consider the effects of their online

actions.

Pupils will also be taught the benefits of having a mobile phone-free environment and be encouraged to see such an environment as desirable and valuable. This will help to create intrinsic motivation to support the school culture.

The role of parents

Parents have an important role in supporting the school's policy on prohibiting the use of mobile phones. Parents are encouraged to reinforce and discuss the policy at home as appropriate, including the risks associated with mobile phone use and the benefits of a mobile phone-free environment. Where parents need to contact their child during the school day, they should be contact the school office, where a member of staff can relay messages and facilitate contact should this be required.

The use of consequences

The DfE provides guidance on how schools can use sanctions lawfully and this can be found in the school's behaviour policy, this can be found on the school website. Margaret Wix Primary School can use a range of sanctions for breaching the mobile phone policy appropriate to their context, including confiscation.

School staff can confiscate mobile phones or similar devices as a consequence where this policy is clearly breached, for instance where a mobile phone is used by a pupil or is heard ringing in a pupil's bag. The law protects staff from liability in any proceedings brought against them for any loss or damage to items they have confiscated as a consequence.

Searching pupils

The Headteacher, or staff they authorise, have a statutory power to search a pupil or their possessions where they have reasonable grounds to suspect that the pupil is in possession of a prohibited item such as a mobile phone.

Adaptations and reasonable adjustments

There may be other exceptional circumstances where Margaret Wix Primary School will consider making adaptations to this policy for specific pupils in exceptional circumstances such as medical tracking apps which will be discussed with parents and the Senior Leadership Team. For example, pupils with diabetes might use continuous glucose monitoring with a sensor linked to their mobile phone to monitor blood sugar levels. Where mobile phone use allows pupils to manage their medical condition effectively.

The use of mobile phones outside the school day

Children are not allowed the use of mobile phones on residential trips or trips outside of the normal school day.

Children travelling to and from school independent of a parent (year 5 and 6), are permitted to bring their phone to school, however they must hand this into the school office on arrival to school. Phones can be collected at the end of the school day or after a school run club.

For parents seeking additional support with mobile phone use at home might like to refer to our online safety policy which can be found on the website.