



Lovellace Primary School

Mobile Phone Policy

Date of Issue	Summer 2026
Date of next review	Summer 2029
Frequency of review	3 years
Statutory Policy Required on Website	No

	Role	Signature	Date
Approved	SLT		

Lovelace Primary School – Mobile Phone Policy

Rationale

At Lovelace Junior School we accept that mobile technology is part of the ever changing, digital environment we live and work in. We very much aim to encourage responsible and appropriate use of technology. We are however, very aware of the possible dangers of the misuse of technology, specifically mobile phones. This policy therefore aims to provide guidance to staff, pupils and parents around expected use of devices in school through government legislation.

Mobile Phones In Schools (DFE) Statutory guidance (June 2026) and Keeping Children Safe in Education (September 2026) both state:

‘All schools should be mobile phone-free environments by default; anything other than this should be by exception only.’

Policy

The school cannot take responsibility for any loss or damage to mobile phones in school.

Mobile devices for the monitoring of medical conditions

We currently hold a list of pupils that are exempt from this policy and are the exception to the policy due to medical requirements, we assure these families that no changes to practice are necessary for these pupils.

For Staff

For those members of staff who are class based, phones should be switched off or to silent mode and should be kept in the provided areas in the staffroom or classroom cupboards during teaching/contact time with pupils. Smart watches and Fitbits are permitted to be worn by staff but to be used only as a watch when working with children.

Staff use of mobile phones and wearable devices during their working day should be:

- *Discreet and appropriate*
- *In keeping with professional responsibilities and expectations.*

Lovelace Primary School – Mobile Phone Policy

Staff should never contact pupils via their own personal mobile and should not supply their mobile number to parents of children at the school.

Staff should never use their phones or wearable devices to take photographs of pupils or allow themselves to be photographed by pupils. If during school trips/activity days etc. a member of staff wishes to take photographs on a mobile phone, express permission must be sought from the head teacher.

For Parents

From September 2026 Smart phones or Smart devices are not permitted to come into school. However, we recognise that for older pupils having a phone may form part of securing an understanding of independence and personal safety as they look beyond the primary environment.

Therefore, Lovelace Junior School will allow Year 5 and 6 pupils to bring a simple phone into school that does not have access to the internet. It is our firm belief that if a child needs to contact a parent or carer, they can do so swiftly from the school office or through a simple phone.

Similarly, if a message needs to be conveyed from a parent to a child, the school office will take these calls and pass the necessary information on promptly.

It is important that parents are aware that the school cannot take any responsibility for loss or damage to mobile phones belonging to parents or pupils on school site.

To support our pupils and our school to become a Smart device free area families are asked to put away their phones when on site, except for events at the school's discretion such as performances or sport events where they may take pictures for their use only, not for social media.

We ask parents to greet their child with a smile, not a screen at the end of the day.

Parents are reminded not to take pictures, videos or voice note recording whilst on the school site, with any type of phone or wearable device unless they have given permission to do so.

If for any reason this is needed, this will be agreed in advance with the headteacher. Parents should be aware that any reference to the school via social media should be in a professional and thoughtful way. Any complaints or concerns should be directed through the normal school complaints procedure.

Parent WhatsApp groups are set up by the parents to share helpful day to day information or termly organisation such as class helpers for swimming. Any concerns should be addressed directly with the school and not circulated on such platforms.

For Pupils

Smart watches/devices - including wearable devices – or devices which take photos or connect to the internet or send messages are not allowed in school.

Lovelace Primary School – Mobile Phone Policy

Mobile phones or devices which connect to the internet are not allowed to be brought into school by children in years R – 5 (YR 5 until Summer term).

It is a requirement that all our younger pupils are collected from school by a responsible adult. The need for a child of these ages to make telephone contact after school will therefore not arise.

Year 5 and 6 children

It is important that any parents allowing a simple mobile phone to be brought into school are fully aware of how they will be looked after and the sanctions that will be imposed in the event of misuse.

If year 6 children (or year 5 from summer term) do want to bring a phone to school it must be a 'simple' phone, with no internet access.

- *The simple phones are to be handed into the teacher as the child enters their classroom and are then kept in the school office until the end of the day. They must be clearly named.*
- *Phones are to be switched off.*

If a child brings in a Smart phone or item which connects to the internet

The following sanctions will apply:

- *On the first occasion, the phone will be confiscated for an agreed period of time, typically one day. Parents/carers will be contacted and asked to collect the phone/device from the school office. The child will not be allowed to collect the item.*
- *On the second occasion the phone will be confiscated for a longer period of time, typically a week. Parents/carers will be notified. The child will not be allowed to collect the item.*
- *After the third occasion the school will withdraw the agreement to allow the child to bring the mobile phone to school. The child will not be allowed to collect the item.*