

Curledge Street **Academy**

Mobile Devices **Policy**

Policy review date: 1/9/26

Policy reviewers: Tim Sandercombe and Keira Hayden

Next Review date: 1/9/27

Aims of the policy

To create a whole school approach to:

- Safe and secure use of mobile devices
- Respect for, and to, mobile device usage

This leads to an environment that recognises the increased dependency on technology but maintains safeguarding as a priority.

Mobile Phones

Agreement:

As our children grow up in an increasingly device-centred world, we, as a school, recognise the need for a continuous and adaptive mobile phone policy that ensures ALL pupils in our school are safeguarded against the risks associated with mobile devices.

In line with Department for Education guidance (January 2026), which states that schools should be mobile phone-free by default, mobile phones are **not permitted** in school unless physically needed for safety (i.e. agreed upon between parents and a member of SLT – due to independent travel to/from school or for a health need e.g. diabetes). This applies to all pupils, in all classes.

Those mobile phones brought in by pupils with permission must be turned off, before entering the school gates, and then handed to the class teacher upon arrival into the classroom. These devices will be stored securely in school. The school will accept no responsibility for lost, damaged or broken phones, including while they are held following confiscation.

Phones will be returned to pupils as they leave the playground, not in class, and are not to be turned on until they leave the school gates.

Consequences:

If a pupil's phone is seen in school (and is not being given, or about to be given, to an adult to store securely) it will be confiscated and the parent/carer will need to collect it from the school office.

If there are any further incidents, other sanctions may be applied aligned with the school's behaviour policy.

If a pupil is seen using their phone on school grounds or on a school arranged activity offsite (social media, WhatsApp etc), the above still applies.

Searching:

Staff in school, at the discretion of the headteacher, and under [DfE guidance](#), have the power to search for mobile phones. If adults believe a pupil to have possession of a phone, they may exercise their right to search for such items.

Other mobile devices

Smart devices, such as smart watches or smart rings, are **not permitted** in school.

We recognise that as technology develops, so do the accessories that children wear. However, given the available functions of smart devices (such as the ability to make calls, use calculators, send messages or take photos) and the influence they can have on learning, or pupil's mental health, the school do not permit them to be in school.

If a child brings a smart device into school, the school reserves the right to ask for the device to be removed and stored with the teacher until the end of the day.

The school cannot accept responsibility for the loss, theft or damage of mobile phones (or other smart devices) at any time, including while they are held following confiscation.

Appendix 1

Legislation and statutory requirements

This policy is based on advice from the Department of Education (DfE) on:

- [Behaviour and discipline in schools](#)
- [Searching, screening and confiscation at school](#)
- [The Equality Act 2010](#)
- [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#)

It is also based on

- The [special educational needs and disability \(SEND\) code of practice](#).
- [DfE guidance](#) explaining that academies should publish their mobile phone/device policy online

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.