Smart Device Policy

Approved: June 2026

To be reviewed: June 2027

Purpose:

This policy aims to promote the responsible use of personal smart devices brought into school by students, ensuring these technologies support learning without disrupting the educational environment or compromising safety.

This policy has been created to compliment and to be used in conjunction with the school's Computing and Online Safety Policy. It has been written in response to the growing usage of modern technology with our school community.

Scope:

This policy applies to all students who bring smart devices, including but not limited to smartphones, tablets, smartwatches, fitness trackers and other internetconnected devices, onto school premises or during school-related activities.

1. **Device Use During School Hours** ○ Students are not permitted to bring smart devices to school. Children in Year 6 are permitted to bring a mobile phone to school but this must be switched off on arrival to the school premises and handed in to school staff.
    ○ Smart watches are permitted as long as all internet connectivity is turned off and the device does not have any recording hardware or software. Any device able to make sounds that can disrupt others or violate any school rules will be confiscated by a member of staff and will be collected by an adult at the end of the school day.

2. **Respecting Privacy and Consent** ○ Recording audio, video, or taking photographs of others without their explicit consent is strictly prohibited on school premises. ○ Sharing images, videos, or any personal information of students or staff on social media or any online platform without permission is forbidden and may result in disciplinary or legal action being pursued.

3. **Security and Responsibility** ○ Students are responsible for the security and safekeeping of their personal devices. The school accepts no liability for loss, theft, or damage. ○ Smart devices must not be used to access, store, or distribute inappropriate, illegal, or harmful content. ○ Students must not attempt to bypass school network security or use devices to gain unauthorised access to school systems.

4. **Behaviour and Online Safety** ○ All device usage must align with the school's online safety and acceptable use policies, including respectful communication and appropriate online conduct. ○ Cyberbullying, harassment, or any misuse of devices that negatively impacts others will lead to disciplinary measures in line with school behaviour and safeguarding policies.

5. **Parental and Guardian Role** ○ Parents and guardians are encouraged to discuss and reinforce responsible smart device use at home, including setting appropriate boundaries and monitoring usage. ○ The school welcomes cooperation with families to support safe and positive technology habits.

6. **Consequences of Misuse** ○ Failure to comply with this policy may result in confiscation of the device, restricted access to school technology and further disciplinary action depending on the severity of the incident.