St Oswald's Catholic Primary School

Pupils' Mobile Phone Policy

Policy Date: September 2026

Review Date: September 2027

Intent statement

At St Oswald's Catholic Primary School, our mission is to **'Live, Love and Learn like Jesus'**. We believe that every person is created in the image and likeness of God and deserves to learn in a safe, calm and respectful environment. Whilst we recognise that some parents wish their child to carry a mobile phone for safety when travelling to and from school, mobile phones and smart devices must not disrupt learning, compromise safeguarding or affect the wellbeing of others.

This policy outlines the expectations for pupils who bring mobile phones to school and should be read alongside the school's Behaviour Policy, Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Online Safety Policy.

For the purposes of this policy, the term ‘mobile device’ includes mobile phones, smart watches and any other device capable of communication, internet access, photography, audio recording or video recording.

1. Ownership and responsibility

1.1. Pupils are responsible for their own belongings. The school accepts no responsibility for replacing property that is lost, stolen or damaged either at school or travelling to and from school. Whilst reasonable precautions are taken to store devices securely, pupils bring mobile devices to school entirely at their own risk. The school cannot accept liability for loss, theft or damage.

1.2. Pupils remain responsible for their own mobile devices at all times. Whilst the school will take reasonable steps to store devices securely during the school day, mobile devices are brought to school at the owner's risk. The school cannot accept responsibility for loss, theft or damage

2. Bringing a Mobile Device to School

2.1. Parents must be aware if their child takes a mobile phone to school. Pupils should only bring a mobile device to school where there is a genuine need, such as travelling independently to and from school.

2.2. Mobile phones will be switched off before entering the school grounds. They will be handed in to the class teacher at the beginning of the day and returned to the pupils at the end of the school day. Mobile phones will be stored in the school office.

2.3. All pupils are expected to sign the Pupil Mobile Phones Agreement and confirm they understand what is expected when bringing their mobile phone to school.

3. Unacceptable use

3.1. Mobile phones should not be used in any manner whilst on the school grounds

3.2. Unless express permission is granted by a member of staff, mobile devices will not be used to perform any of the following activities whilst on school grounds:

- Make phone calls or video calls
- Send text messages, WhatsApp messages, iMessages or emails
- Access social media
- Play games
- Take photographs

4. Safeguarding and privacy

4.1 Restrictions on mobile devices are intended to:

- Safeguard pupils and staff.
- Protect personal privacy.
- Prevent unauthorised photography, video or audio recording.
- Reduce the risk of cyberbullying.
- Maintain a calm and focused learning environment.

4.2 Any misuse of a mobile device outside school which affects the safety, wellbeing or education of pupils or staff may be dealt with in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy, Online Safety Policy and Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

4.3 Where there are reasonable grounds to believe that a mobile device contains material that may place a pupil or others at risk of harm, or where there are safeguarding concerns, the Headteacher may take appropriate action in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy, Safeguarding Policy and relevant statutory guidance.

5. Sanctions

5.1. Bringing a mobile phone to school is a privilege which can be revoked at any time.

5.2. Any breaches of this policy will be managed in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy. This may include confiscation of the device, communication with parents and the withdrawal of permission to bring a mobile device to school.

5.3. Confiscated mobile phones must be collected by the pupil's parent.

6. Policy review

6.1. The Headteacher and Governors will monitor the effectiveness of this policy and review it annually.

6.2. Any changes to this policy will be communicated to members of staff by the headteacher.

6.3. The scheduled review date for this policy is September 2027.

Pupil Mobile Phone Agreement

I understand that bringing a mobile phone or smart device to school is a privilege, not a right.

I agree to:

- Switch my device off before entering the school grounds.
- Hand my device to my class teacher at the start of the school day.
- Leave my device switched off for the duration of the school day.
- Follow the expectations set out in the school's Mobile Phone Policy.
- Use technology responsibly and respectfully.

I understand that if I do not follow these expectations, the school may confiscate my device and withdraw permission for me to bring it to school.

Name	
Signature	
Date	

Parental Mobile Phone Agreement

I understand that St Oswald's Catholic Primary School permits pupils to bring mobile devices to school to support their safety when travelling to and from school. I have discussed the expectations of the Mobile Phone Policy with my child and will support the school in ensuring these expectations are followed.

I understand that:

- My child must switch their device off before entering the school grounds.
- Their device must be handed in at the beginning of the school day.
- Permission to bring a device to school may be withdrawn if the policy is not followed.
- Whilst reasonable precautions are taken to store devices securely, the school cannot accept responsibility for loss, theft or damage.

I agree to work in partnership with the school to promote the safe and responsible use of technology.

Name	
Signature	
Date	