

WSFG Smartphone Free Policy

Vision

To foster a compassionate, focused and mentally healthy school community by removing the distractions and risks associated with smartphone use during the school day.

Rules

WSfG is a smartphone-free environment. If parents and carers wish their child to carry a mobile phone to school, they must adhere to the following policy.

The phone must be one of the following types: **Nokia 2660 Flip, Nokia 8210 4G, Nokia 110 4G, Nokia 105 2G, XploraOne, Doro 6820**

We are aware there are other 'brick' phone handsets available. If parents/carers would like to suggest an alternative 'brick style' phone, they must contact the school using the info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk email address with details of the phone.

Any suggested 'brick' phones must have no ability to connect to the internet or Wi-Fi and should not have any social media apps installed. We will review suggestions on a case by case basis and if a suggested 'brick' phone adheres to our regulations, parents/carers will be contacted to confirm whether the phone is approved.

Any non-approved phone will be classified as a 'prohibited phone' and will be confiscated for 6 weeks.

We've added a couple of additional 'brick' phones to our list of acceptable school phones following parent and carer suggestions. The final list of acceptable devices are displayed below.



We advise that parents/carers conduct their own research before choosing one of these recommended phones.

The phone must be clearly marked with the student's name.

The phone must be switched off before the student enters the school site and placed in their school bag.

The phone must not be brought out at any point during the school day and should only be used after school when the student is outside the school gates.

The phone remains the responsibility of the student at all times and the school will not take action if it is lost or stolen.

Touch screen and smart watches are prohibited. If a student is found with one, it will be confiscated for 6 weeks just as with a prohibited phone.

There may be occasions when a member of staff is required to search a student's personal belongings (see Searching Students Policy).

If a prohibited phone is found it will be confiscated for 6 weeks in line with our policy.

Our Smartphone Free Policy applies:

- Inside the school building
- Whilst inside the school gates
- Outside the school gates down Church Hill to the zebra crossing nearest to Woodbury Road
- Outside the school gates up to the corner leading to St Mary's Church

Our Smartphone Free Policy applies from 8:15am until 3:30pm each school day.

If a student is seen with a smartphone in any of these areas inside or outside the school grounds between 8:15-3:30pm it will be confiscated for 6 weeks.

Our Smartphone Free Policy also applies on school trips that are not residential trips or trips abroad. Students can take brick phones on trips but they must remain switched off and in their bag.

If during a search a 'school phone' is found it will not be confiscated provided it does not contain any evidence relating to an investigation AND when it is found it is switched off.

All prohibited phones and school phones that are not switched off will automatically be confiscated as part of a search.

Any phone that is seen or heard during the school day (school approved or smart) will automatically be confiscated. This includes phones that have been heard from within a student's uniform or bag.

When a 'school phone' is confiscated, it will be kept for 48 school hours. It will only be returned to a parent/carer. The parent/carer will be contacted, and the phone will be locked away.

When a smart phone or touch screen watch is confiscated, it will be kept for 6 weeks. It will only be returned to a parent/carer. The parent/carer will be contacted, and the phone will be locked away and returned after 6 weeks.

GPS trackers

In addition to the acceptable school phones listed above, students will be permitted to keep the following GPS tracking devices in their schoolbag. These should not be used during the school day or the 48 hour confiscation rule for "school phones" will apply.

If parents/carers wish to suggest an alternative GPS tracking device, they can suggest a tracker in the same way they would suggest a 'brick phone' as stated above.



Karri device



AngelSense GPS Tracker



Weenect Kids Tracker

We advise that parents/ carers conduct their own research before choosing one of these recommended trackers.

Smartphone Free Exemption Request Form



Date:

Student name:

Form:

Parent/Carer name:

Reason for the requested exemption. Please indicate Y/N

Reason	Y/N
My child has a medical condition that requires her to have a mobile phone e.g. Type I Diabetes	
My child moves from one parent/carers to another during the school week	

Is your child receiving any SEND/SEMH support? Y/N

Please add details:

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Actions taken to date:

Action taken	Y/N	Notes
Discussed reason for exemption with the SENDCO		
Discussed reason for exemption with HOY		
Discussed reason for exemption with the Safeguarding Team		

How will parents/carers support this in terms of ensuring their child hands in their phone every day to the front office?

Agreed by HOY:

Agreed by SENDO/LLD team:

Agreed by SLT LM:

Agreed by Parent/Carer:

Agreed by HMA: