



WREN'S NEST PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Key Policy for 2026-2027

Use of Mobile Phones Policy – Children

September 2026

Document to be read in conjunction with ***other key school policies (listed within document)***

1. Policy Statement

Wren's Nest Primary School recognises that some Children may need to bring a mobile phone to school for safety reasons, particularly when travelling independently.

However, in line with current safeguarding guidance (including *Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026*), mobile phone use presents potential risks to children's safety, wellbeing and learning.

This policy sets out clear expectations to ensure:

- Children are safeguarded from online and offline risks
- Learning time is protected from distraction
- A positive and respectful school culture is maintained

2. Key Principles

- Mobile phones are **not permitted for use by children during the school day**.
- Phones must be **handed in, switched off**, and securely stored.
- The school operates a "**not seen, not used**" approach to mobile devices.
- Safeguarding takes priority over convenience at all times.

3. Bringing Mobile Phones to School

- Only children in **Year 5 and Year 6** are permitted to bring mobile phones where there is a clear need (e.g. independent travel).
- On arrival at school, pupils must **hand their phone into the main school office immediately**.
- Phones will be:
 - Logged where appropriate
 - Stored securely during the school day
- Children must collect their phone from the office **at the end of the school day**.

4. Use of Mobile Phones

- Children must **not use mobile phones anywhere on school premises**, including:
 - Classrooms
 - Corridors
 - Toilets and changing areas
 - Playground and lunchtime areas
- The following are strictly prohibited:
 - Taking photos or videos
 - Accessing the internet or social media
 - Messaging or calling during school hours

This supports safeguarding and protects all members of the school community.

5. Safeguarding and Online Safety

This policy is underpinned by the school's safeguarding responsibilities, including:

- Preventing **unauthorised photography or recording**
- Reducing risks linked to **cyberbullying and online harm**
- Protecting children from exposure to **inappropriate content**

Any misuse of a mobile phone will be treated as a **safeguarding concern** and dealt with in line with:

- The school's Safeguarding Child Protection Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Online Safety Policy

6. Non-Compliance

If a child fails to follow this policy:

- The phone will be **taken to Mrs Parkes immediately**
- It will be stored securely in the school office
- Parents/carers/family member may be required to **collect the device**
- Repeated breaches may result in:
 - Loss of permission to bring a phone
 - Further consequence in line with the Behaviour Policy

7. Communication with Parents, Carers and Families

- Parents/carers must contact the **school office** if urgent communication is required.
- Children will be supported to contact home via the school office if necessary.
- Mobile phones must not be used as a primary means of communication during the school day.

8. Responsibility and Liability

- Children bring mobile phones to school **at their own risk**.
- The school cannot accept responsibility for **loss, theft, or damage**.

9. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it reflects:

- Current safeguarding guidance (including KCSIE updates)
- DfE expectations
- Emerging risks related to technology use

The policy will be promoted and applied consistently by all staff. The Curriculum and Standards Committee will review it annually, taking account of feedback from children and families, affordability, equality impacts and the effectiveness of support arrangements. The governing board will ensure that the current policy is clearly published on the school website for current and prospective families.

This policy should be read alongside:

- Behaviour Policy
- KCSIE
- Safeguarding Policy

10. Conclusion

Wren's Nest Primary School is committed to creating a safe, focused, and respectful learning environment.

Thank you for supporting our school in ensuring all children can learn, feel safe, and be the best they can be.

Date of Review: September 2026

Policy to be reviewed: September 2027