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Longparish School

Draft Mobile Phone and Smart Device Policy

Status: Draft for Consultation and Implementation
Implementation Date: 1 September 2026
Date Presented to Governors: September 2026
Proposed Ratification Date: End of September 2026
Review Date: September 2027

Introduction

This is a draft policy which has been developed in response to Department for Education guidance on mobile phones in schools and Longparish School's commitment, shared with parents in October 2025, to support children's wellbeing, learning and online safety.

The policy is being implemented from **1 September 2026** to ensure compliance with national expectations and to provide clarity for pupils, parents and staff at the start of the academic year.

The policy will be presented to the Governing Body for formal ratification at its meeting in September 2026. Until ratified, it should be regarded as the school's draft operational policy and will be applied in full from 1 September 2026.

Policy Statement

Longparish School prohibits the use of mobile phones and smart devices by pupils throughout the school day.

This includes:

- Before school once pupils enter the school site.
- During lessons.
- During breaktimes and lunchtime.
- During educational activities.

- During any period when pupils are under the supervision of the school.

For the purposes of this policy, "mobile phones" includes smartphones, smartwatches with communication functions and any other device capable of:

- Making calls.
- Sending or receiving messages.
- Accessing the internet.
- Taking photographs.
- Recording audio or video.
- Receiving notifications.

Bringing Devices to School

Longparish School strongly discourages primary-aged children from bringing smartphones to school.

Where parents consider it necessary for a child to have a phone for travel to and from school:

- A basic phone without internet access is strongly recommended.
- Any phone brought to school must be switched off before entering the school site.
- Phones must be handed to a member of staff on arrival and will be stored securely until the end of the school day.

Pupils must not access their phone during the school day unless authorised by a member of staff in exceptional circumstances.

Communication with Parents

Parents and carers who need to contact their child during the school day should do so through the School Office.

If a pupil needs to contact a parent or carer, school staff will facilitate this through the School Office.

Expectations for Pupils

Pupils are expected to:

- Comply with this policy at all times.
- Hand any phone brought to school to a member of staff on arrival.
- Respect the school's commitment to creating a focused learning environment.
- Use technology responsibly both in and out of school.

Expectations for Parents

Parents and carers are asked to:

- Support the school's policy and procedures.
- Consider providing a non-smartphone device if a phone is required for travel purposes.
- Use the School Office for communication during the school day.
- Support the school's ongoing work to promote online safety and healthy technology habits.

Breaches of the Policy

Where a pupil breaches this policy:

- The device may be confiscated immediately.
- The incident will be recorded.
- Parents may be informed.
- Appropriate behaviour sanctions may be applied in accordance with the Behaviour Policy.

Repeated breaches may result in a parent or carer being required to collect the device from school.

Reasonable Adjustments

Longparish School recognises its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 and the Children and Families Act 2014.

Reasonable adjustments will be made where a pupil requires access to a device due to:

- A disability.
- A medical condition.
- An Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).
- Other exceptional circumstances approved by the Headteacher.

Any agreed arrangements will be documented and reviewed regularly.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Headteacher and Governing Body, or sooner if required by changes in legislation or statutory guidance.

Document Control

Version	Status	Date
Version 1.0	Draft for implementation and governor ratification	September 2026

Note: This policy is being implemented from **1 September 2026** and is scheduled for formal ratification by the Longparish School Governing Body at its meeting at the end of September 2026.