

St. Peter's Catholic Primary School

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Acceptable Use Agreement for pupils wishing to bring a mobile phone to school

Purpose

We recognise that parents/carers may wish to give their children mobile phones to protect them from everyday risks, especially when they are walking to and from school unaccompanied.

Only children in Years 5 & 6 may walk to school unaccompanied and therefore they are the only children who may ask permission to have a mobile phone in school. Their parents or carers must read and understand the Acceptable Use Agreement as a condition upon which permission is given to bring mobile phones to school.

Responsibility

- It is the responsibility of pupils who bring mobile phones to school to abide by these guidelines.
- The decision to provide their children with a mobile phone should be made by parents or carers. **It is essential that parents understand the capabilities of the phone and the potential misuse of those capabilities.**
- Parents/carers should be aware that the school cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage to a mobile phone.

Acceptable Use:

- Mobile phones will be switched off (not just put on silent/ airplane mode) and will be handed into the class teacher on arrival in school in the morning and collected at the end of the school day.
- **Mobile phones may not be used at any point during the school day**
- Parents/carers should contact the school with messages. They should not leave text or voicemail messages for children to collect at the end of the day. This ensures that staff are aware of any potential issues and can make the necessary arrangements.
- **Mobile phones should not be brought on school trips.**

Inappropriate conduct/ Cyberbullying

It is a criminal offence to use a mobile phone to menace, harass or offend another person. If the school becomes aware of incidents of cyberbullying or other inappropriate conduct involving our pupils or others under the age of 13, even if they occur outside of the school day, then we have a duty to inform Children's Services and/ or the Local Area Designated Officer for safeguarding (LADO) as appropriate, and in extreme cases, the police

Sanctions

If children do not keep to this agreement then their mobile phone would be confiscated by a teacher and taken to the school office. Parents will be contacted and possibly asked to collect the mobile phone from a member of the SLT and a record will be made of the incident.

Data collection

We ask for the mobile phone number of your child's phone. This will be added to their contact numbers in our school system. We only use this number to contact your child in an exceptional or emergency situation e.g. an older sibling has arrived to collect the child for a specific reason but they have already left the premises.

If you agree to these points, please then access the link to **General Permission and Information Form** sent via Parentmail in order to confirm your agreement. If you would like to give permission for your child to have a phone during the school year, please email office@stpeters-leatherhead.surrey.sch.uk and ask for the link to our General Permission Form 2021/22.:

