



Mobile phone and smart watch, policy excerpts.

Our Lady of Peace Primary January 2026

This policy supports:

- A calm, focused learning environment
- Safeguarding and child protection
- Respectful relationships and face-to-face communication
- Partnership with parents/carers regarding safe technology use

We recognise that some pupils may carry devices for safety when travelling to and from school. Our approach balances this need with our duty to provide a secure and distraction-free environment.

1. Scope

This policy applies to:

- Mobile phones
- Smart watches (including 5G-enabled devices)
- Any personal device capable of communication, recording, or internet access

It applies throughout the school day, including break times, lunch times, and school activities.

2. What This Looks Like in Practice

Arrival at School

- Pupils who bring a device must switch it off before entering the school building.
- On arrival in class, pupils place devices in the class mobile device basket.
- Each class maintains a clearly labelled, secure basket for phones and smart watches (including 5G-enabled devices).

During the School Day

- Devices remain switched off and always stored in the class basket.
- Pupils do not access devices during lessons, breaks, or lunch.
- Devices are not used for photography, messaging, calls, or internet access on school premises.

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Collection at End of Day

- Devices are returned to pupils at dismissal time.
- Pupils switch devices on only after leaving the building.

3. Safeguarding & Privacy

- Personal devices must not be used to photograph, record, or contact others in school.
- Staff will never request or use pupil personal devices for school business.
- **If urgent communication is required, parents/carers must contact the school office.**

5. Loss, Damage, or Theft

- Devices are brought to school at the owner's risk.
- The school cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage.
- Secure storage procedures will be followed consistently.

6. Responding to Misuse

If a device is used contrary to this policy:

1. Device secured by staff and returned at end of day
2. Parents/carers informed if misuse continues
3. Further restrictions may be applied

7. Partnership with Parents/Carers

We ask families to support this policy by:

- Ensuring children understand expectations
- Avoiding unnecessary devices in school
- Reinforcing safe and respectful technology use

Exceptions

Consideration is given to whether exceptions for individual circumstances are required. This should be discussed with senior school management and /the school additional support needs coordinator. For example, pupils:

- with disabilities who use their mobile phone as part of a reasonable adjustment, including access to augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) etc.