



Department of Education, Sport & Culture  
Rheynn Ynsee, Spoyrt as Cultoor  
**ASHLEY HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Scoill Cronk Ashley

## **Ashley Hill School Policy on mobile devices** **(Pupil version)**

### **Rationale**

The school strongly discourages pupils bringing mobile phones to school when there is no appropriate justification for bringing the device onto the premises.

The school's ESafety policy recognises that we play a role, through our curriculum, to educate children about the safe use of devices, alongside the advantages and pitfalls of social media platforms. The school is equipped with devices and resources to ensure this can be taught effectively. As a result, mobile phone devices are not required throughout the school day for any reason.

Further reasons to discourage children bringing in mobile phones:

- Misuse of camera enabled mobile phones, which can be used to harass / bully other pupils.
- Age-inappropriate use of the internet.
- Damage and/or loss of an expensive item.

**When a child needs to bring a phone into school, a permission slip (Appendix 1) must be signed by the parent and the phone must be left in the School Office at the start of the day and collected at the end of the day by the pupil.**

**Phones must be clearly marked with an identifying name so that each pupil knows their own phone and it is easily distinguishable.**

**Parents are advised that Ashley Hill School accepts no liability for the loss or damage to mobile phones which are brought into school or school grounds. All devices are brought at a family's own risk.**

**The Headteacher reserves the right to approve or disallow phones to be brought into the building, based on the justification given.**

### **Smart watches**

Emerging technology, such as the smart watch, can be extremely exciting and intuitive. Concerns remain though whether devices, such as these, are appropriate within a primary school context. There is huge potential for damage or loss (especially when taken off for PE) of an extremely expensive item. Similarly, a primary school pupil will find it challenging to focus on the demands of their learning whilst managing the distraction of a smart watch. If the school deem that the smart watch is having a negative impact on a child's learning, we will strongly encourage the watch to remain at home.

Where a pupil is found by a member of staff to have failed to follow this policy, the phone will be confiscated from the pupil, handed into the Office who will record the name of the pupil and attach it to the phone. The mobile phone will be stored by the school office in the usual way. The pupil may collect the phone at the end of the school day. A letter will be sent home to parents requesting that a permission slip be returned the next day. If this practice continues on three occasions, the school will confiscate the phone until an appropriate adult collects the phone from a senior member of staff.

If a pupil is found taking photographs or video footage with a mobile phone of either other pupils or teachers, this will be regarded as a serious matter and contact will be made immediately with Parents.

Should a pupil be found to be using their phone inappropriately, the school reserves the right to withdraw this privilege and they will no longer be able to bring a phone into school.

We ask that parents should talk to their children about the appropriate use of text messages. Examples of this would be Whatsapp, Snapchat, Tik Tok. The school and Department of Education Sport and Culture (IOM) endorse the use of the Safer Schools App which offers valuable information to support the appropriate use of mobile technology and its dangers. The school has developed a programme for teaching appropriate use of technology which is ongoing throughout the academic year.

Should parents need to contact pupils or vice versa during the school day, this should be done via the usual school procedure of contacting the school office via phone or email.

**Pupils will have no access to their devices during school time.**

**Parents are encouraged to discuss with children whether bringing a device to school is essential for this reason.**

The policy supports the Health & Safety, Anti bullying, Child Protection, Safeguarding and Internet/Esafety policies. This policy will be monitored and reviewed as required but at least every two years.

September 2021



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**Mobile Phone Parental Consent Form**

Dear Parent/Carer

In accordance with our mobile phone policy, if your child is bringing in a mobile phone to school, please could you sign the form below to give your permission for your child to do this and remind them of our school policy.

- Your child needs to bring their phone to the school office first thing in the morning before they go their classroom.
- The school bears no responsibility for the loss or damage to a mobile phone.
- Your child's phone needs to be appropriately marked with their name so that they can recognise it.
- Should your child be found using their phone inappropriately, the school reserves the right to withdraw this privilege and they will no longer be able to bring their phone into school.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Peter Lewis  
 Headteacher

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**MOBILE PHONE PARENTAL CONSENT**

I/we give permission for our child (name) .....  
 in Year ..... to bring their mobile phone into school.

My child needs this phone in school each day because:

.....  
 We have read the policy and understand the implications:

Signed .....

Date.....

PLEASE RETURN PERMISSION SLIP TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE. THANK YOU.