

Our Online Safety Policy

Heading: Mobile Technologies

Following the publication of updated government guidance regarding the use of mobile phones in schools (available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mobilephones-in-schools>), Chilthorne Domer Church School has reviewed and clarified its expectations for pupils, staff, and visitors with respect to mobile devices and smart technology on the school site.

The school acceptable use agreements for staff, learners, parents, and carers also outline the expectations around the use of mobile technologies.

Personal devices:

- *Mobile phones are not permitted to be used within school hours unless they are used in the staff room or office areas.*
- *Mobile phones should be out of sight and either switched off or on silent unless in a designated area.*
- *Personal mobile phones must not be used in classrooms, corridors, playgrounds or any other areas where pupils are present. This includes use on coaches and during school trips, unless the phone is being used to contact the school.*
- *Mobile phones should be password protected.*
- *Should there be exceptional or emergency circumstances, then staff should make the Headteacher aware of this and agree access to the device.*
- *There may be occasions where it is appropriate for a teacher to use a mobile phone or similar device to use multi-factor authentication. In these circumstances, children should not see a device and the process should be done out of school hours when possible. If not, this must be done discreetly.*
- *School iPads must be used for taking photographs. Personal mobile phones are not permitted.*
- *Staff who have Smart watches that can connect to Bluetooth on their phones **MUST** ensure this is not connected during school hours.*
- *Staff who wear smart watches must ensure that settings are restricted so that the watch cannot capture images during school hours. Adults must be prepared to demonstrate compliance if requested.*
- *Smart watches must not be used in classrooms or in the presence of pupils.*
- *Smart watches may only be used within the staff room or designated staff areas.*
- *Smart watches must never be used for photography or video recording anywhere on the school site.*
- *Where devices are used to support learning, staff have been trained in their planning, use and implementation, ensuring that all learners can access a required resource.*
- *Where personal devices are brought to school, but their use is not permitted, appropriate, safe and secure storage should be made available.*
- *Use of personal devices for school business is defined in the acceptable use policy and staff handbook.*
- *The expectations for taking/storing/using images/video aligns with the school's acceptable use policy and use of images/video policy. The non-consensual taking/using of images of others is not permitted.*
- *Liability for loss/damage or malfunction of personal devices is clearly defined*

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- *There is clear advice and guidance at the point of entry for visitors to acknowledge school requirements*
- *Education about the safe and responsible use of mobile devices is included in the school online safety education programmes*

Pupils and Mobile Phones

Pupils are not permitted to bring mobile phones onto the school premises unless permission has been granted by a member of the senior leadership team. Even with permission, the mobile phone will be handed over to a member of staff to store securely until the end of the day. Children who bring a mobile for safety whilst walking to and from school must hand them into the office on their arrival.

If a pupil is found to be in possession of a mobile phone, the device will be confiscated immediately and secured in the office safe for the remainder of the day. Parents or carers will be notified and asked to ensure that the device is not brought back into school.

Pupils and Smart Watches

Smart watches, including those with restricted or educational settings, are not permitted in school. If a pupil is found with a smart watch, it will be confiscated and stored securely in the office safe until the end of the school day. Parents or carers will be informed and required to ensure that the device is not returned to school.

If any member of staff has concerns that another adult or child is misusing a mobile or smart device, they have a duty to report the concern to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) without delay.