# Kenmont Primary School

**Mobile Phone and Smart Watch Policy for pupils**

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| Approved | September 2026 | Next Review Due | September 2027 |

This policy provides clear guidance on the use of mobile phones and smart watches in school by pupils

**Introduction**

In line with the most recent guidance from the DFE*, Kenmont Primary School has a policy on allowing Year 5 and Year 6 pupils to bring mobile phones and smart watches into school and this policy makes explicit reference to camera mobile phones. Pupils who bring their phones to school must hand them into the school office on arrival and they are collected prior to departure. Pupils who are below Year 5 are not permitted to bring a phone / smart device into school as they are not allowed to walk to school without a parent/carer.

**The Department for Education (DfE) expects schools to implement a policy whereby pupils do not have access to their mobile phone throughout the school day including during lessons, the time between lessons, breaktimes and lunchtime.* DFE June 2026 Mobile phones in schools - GOV.UK

**Camera Mobile Phones**

Camera mobile phones and smart watches are now the norm and a built-in digital camera enables users to take high resolution pictures and videos. These can be sent instantly to other mobile phone users or email addresses. They can also be posted on the internet or in chat rooms. There is a potential for camera mobile phones and smart watches to be misused in schools. They can become an instrument of bullying or harassment directed against pupils or/and others.

We fully acknowledge a parent's right to allow their child to bring a mobile phone to school if they walk to and from school without adult supervision. However, Kenmont Primary School discourages pupils bringing mobile phones and smart watches to school due to the potential issues raised above and those pupils, in years 5 or 6, that do must follow the school's procedures.

**Procedure**

When a child needs to bring a device into school, a permission slip must be signed by the parent/carer and the device must be left with the school office / class teacher upon entering the school grounds at the start of the day. The staff member will return the device to the child at the end of the day. At no point must the child use the device on the school premises – this means the child cannot use their device in the playground as they enter/leave the school site.

All devices should be clearly marked so that each pupil knows their own device. Parents are advised that Kenmont accepts no liability for the loss or damage to mobile phones which are brought into school or onto school grounds.

Where a pupil is found by a member of staff to be using a device in school (i.e. the child has not handed the device to their teacher at the start of the day), the device will be confiscated from the pupil, handed to a member of the office team who will record the name of the pupil and attach it to the device. The device will be stored by the school office. The parent of the pupil will be required to collect the device at the end of the school day or at the next convenient time.

If this practice of using a device in school continues more than once, the permission for being allowed to bring a device to school will be withdrawn.

If a pupil is found taking photographs or video footage with a device of either other pupils or teachers, this will be regarded as a serious offence and disciplinary action will be taken according to our Behaviour policy.

If images of other pupils or teachers have been taken, the device will not be returned to the pupil until the images have been removed by the pupil in the presence of their parent and a senior teacher.

Should a pupil be found to be using their device inappropriately, the school reserves the right to withdraw this privilege and they will no longer be able to bring a device into school. We ask that parents talk to their children about the appropriate use of text messages, photographs and videos as they can often be used to bully pupils.

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.

Finally, in line with our code of conduct and the latest DFE guidance, staff should not use their own mobile phone for personal reasons in front of pupils throughout the school day.