LADY JOANNA THORNHILL (ENDOWED) PRIMARY SCHOOL

Pupil mobile phones in school
Pupils in Years 5 and 6

The following sets out the procedures for pupil's bringing personal mobile phones onto school site.

Mobile device use

Mobile telephone devices should only be brought to school by children in Year 5 and Year 6 under very specific circumstances. Specifically, a child should possess a mobile telephone on school premises exclusively when they are required to walk home unaccompanied by an adult or older sibling.

These procedures ensure that mobile devices serve their intended purpose as safety communication tools rather than becoming sources of distraction or social complications within the educational setting.

Should parents or carers determine that a child requires a mobile telephone for their journey to and from school, it is imperative that parents/carers:

- Provide written correspondence to the class teacher. This formal notification ensures that teaching staff are fully informed regarding which children are authorised to carry mobile devices.

Once this has taken place, we have clear procedures for pupils which they must adhere to.

Guidance for pupils:

- All mobile devices must be completely turned off before you enter the school premises each morning.
- Upon arrival, these devices must be handed in to the class teacher, who will secure them for the entirety of the school day.
- Mobiles will be returned to you at the end of the school day, and you must not turn your mobile on, ***until you have left the school site***.

Smartphone Free Childhood

Smartphone Free Childhood strongly encourage parents to consider that mobile telephones provided for children of this age need not possess smartphone capabilities. Indeed, we would actively discourage the provision of smartphones to children of such young years, and I direct your attention to the Smartphone Free Childhood campaign materials that have been previously shared with our school community. These resources provide compelling evidence regarding the potential negative impacts of sophisticated mobile technology on young people's development and wellbeing. A link to the Smartphone Free childhood website may be found here: Smartphone Free Childhood.

The procedures reflect our commitment to maintaining an educational environment that prioritises learning, safety, and age-appropriate social development whilst acknowledging the legitimate safety concerns that may necessitate communication devices for children who travel independently.

Please note:

The school does not accept any responsibility for mobile phones whilst on the school site.