



St. Leonard's School Diary Mobile Phone Policy

This policy has been created to establish clear, fair and effective guidelines on the use of mobile device use within St. Leonard's Primary and Nursery. This document aligns with South Lanarkshire Council Education Resources.

Key Principles

- **Respectful and Responsible Use:** We promote the respectful and responsible use of mobile devices by all members of our school community
- **Empowerment and Local Decision-Making:** As a school, we are best positioned to determine what works for our learners and have created a policy that reflects our community's unique needs and values
- **Inclusion and Equity:** Our policy ensures that no pupil is disadvantaged. We will make exceptions for student with specific needs, such as medical conditions on a case-by-case basis
- **Learning-Focused Environment:** The primary goal of this policy is to protect and support high-quality learning, teaching, and assessment
- **Wellbeing and Safety:** We are committed to protecting the wellbeing of pupils and staff by addressing issues like cyberbullying, harassment, and inappropriate content

Permitted and Prohibited use

At St. Leonard's Primary School, we have adopted a Full Restriction approach to mobile devices during the school day. This means that mobile phones and smart watches will not be used as a learning tool in our school. The following outlines the permitted and prohibited uses of mobile devices:

Permitted Use:

- For medical monitoring, such as for pupils with diabetes
- During travel to and from school, unless otherwise restricted

Prohibited Use:

- During lessons, breaks, and lunchtimes as well as after school clubs and breakfast club
- For recreational purposes during class time, such as game or social media
- For taking photos, videos, or audio recordings without the consent of those being filmed or photographed
- For contacting parents/carers during the school day. All emergency communication must be handled through the school office

All mobile devices, including smartwatches and tablets, must be switched off and stored securely in school bags, during the school day. Devices should have all notifications turned off while at school. In the event of an emergency, such as a fire drill, the priority is pupil safety and evacuation, not retrieving mobile devices.

Consequence of misuse

To ensure clear expectations and consistency, our staff will consistently enforce this policy. Consequence of misuse and non-compliance will be proportionate and clearly communicated. These may include:

- Confiscation of the device for the remainder of the day, with secure storage and return procedures.
- Parental contact if a pupil refuses to comply or repeatedly breaches the policy
- Referral to external agencies, such as the police, in cases involving serious misuse or potential criminal activity

Emergency Contact and Legal Considerations

In an emergency, pupils must contact a member of staff who will facilitate communication with parents or carers. If a parent needs to contact their child urgently, they should call the school office. The use of mobile devices is subject to all relevant laws regarding data protection and online safety. Taking photos, videos, or audio recordings without consent may breach privacy laws and our school's safeguarding procedures. The council does not accept responsibility for any loss or damage to mobile devices while on school premises.

Review date: March 2027