



Personal Electronic Devices Policy

2019 - 2021

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Statement of intent

Overchurch Junior School accepts that personal mobile phones and tablets are often given to pupils by their parents to ensure their safety and personal security.

Mobile phones, digital music players and other personal electronic devices have become more widely available.

As a school, we must make a sensible and practical response. We understand that parents wish their children to carry a mobile phone for their personal safety, whilst students may wish to bring additional devices to school for other reasons.

Signed by:

_____ **Headteacher** Date: _____

_____ **Chair of governors** Date: _____

1. Key roles and responsibilities

- 1.1. The governing body has overall responsibility for the implementation of the personal electronic devices policy and procedures of Overchurch Junior School.
- 1.2. The governing body has overall responsibility for ensuring that the Personal Electronic Devices Policy, as written, does not discriminate on any grounds, including but not limited to ethnicity/national origin, culture, religion, gender, disability or sexual orientation.
- 1.3. The governing body has overall responsibility for reviewing the Personal Electronic Devices Policy annually.
- 1.4. The headteacher has responsibility for handling complaints regarding this policy as outlined in the school's Complaints Policy.
- 1.5. The headteacher will be responsible for the day-to-day implementation and management of the personal electronic devices policy and procedures of Overchurch Junior School.

2. General property

- 2.1. Pupils are responsible for their own belongings.
- 2.2. Exercise books, planners, text books, electronic equipment, stationary and folders issued by Overchurch Junior School remain the property of the school and should be treated as such.
- 2.3. Pupils are responsible for replacing lost or damaged school property, including electronic devices.

3. Personal electronic devices

- 3.1. Personal electronic devices include, but are not limited to, existing and emerging:
 - Mobile communication systems and smart technologies (mobile phones, iPhones, Smartphones, internet-enabled phones, etc.).
 - Personal Digital Assistants (PDA) (Palm organizers, pocket PCs, etc.)
 - Handheld entertainment systems (video games, CD players, compact DVD players, MP3 players, iPods, earphones, etc.).
 - Portable internet devices (mobile messengers, iPads, etc.).
 - Wireless handheld technologies or portable information technology systems (used for word processing, wireless internet access, image capture/recording, sound recording, and information transmitting/receiving/storing, etc.).
- 3.2. Overchurch Junior School acknowledges the increasing use of mobile technology as part of the curriculum.
- 3.3. Parents/carers should be aware if their child takes a mobile phone or tablet to school.
- 3.4. Overchurch Junior School accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile devices either at school, or travelling to and from school.

4. Acceptable use

- 4.1. Mobile devices should be switched off and kept in the School Office.
- 4.2. Pupils are responsible for protecting their own personal information including their phone number.

5. Unacceptable use

- 5.1. Unless express permission is granted, mobile devices should not be used to make calls, send SMS messages, iMessages or emails, take photos or use any other application during school lessons and other educational and pastoral activities.
- 5.2. Files should not be sent between mobile devices and Bluetooth and WIFI functions should be disabled while on school premises.
- 5.3. If pupils fall ill during school hours, they must not use their mobile device to contact parents/carers; they should use the agreed procedures.
- 5.4. Under no circumstances should mobile devices be taken into examinations.
- 5.5. Under no circumstances should mobile devices be used in changing rooms or toilets.
- 5.6. Personal laptops, mobile phones or tablets must not be plugged in to outlets on school premises without the express permission of the headteacher and an up-to-date portable appliance test (PAT).
- 5.7. Pupils may use a portable flash drive to transfer school work only.

6. Cyberbullying

- 6.1. At Overchurch Junior School, cyber bullying is taken seriously.
- 6.2. Incidents of cyber bullying will be dealt with and reported along the same chain as the Anti-Bullying Policy.
- 6.3. As part of our on-going commitment to the prevention of cyber bullying, regular education and discussion about e-safety will take place as part of computing and PSHE.

7. Spot checks

- 7.1. Any teacher or staff member may ask any pupil to show them what they are doing on their mobile phone or tablet at any time.
- 7.2. Any teacher or staff member may ask any pupil to give them their portable flash drive at any time.
- 7.3. Pupils are required to comply with any request to check their mobile phone, tablet or flash drive.
- 7.4. Pupils are required to comply with any request to disable the screen lock function of their phone and show any teacher or staff member what they are doing.

8. Accessing Data

- 8.1. Downloading and accessing inappropriate websites and data on school/academy personal electronic devices is strictly prohibited.
- 8.2. Using the personal data of any pupil or member of staff for non-work related activity is strictly prohibited.
- 8.3. More information about accessing data can be found in our Data Protection Policy.

9. Sanctions

- 9.1. Any pupil caught breaking the Personal Electronic Devices Policy will have their mobile device confiscated until the end of the day.
- 9.2. Confiscated mobile devices will be locked away securely in the school office.
- 9.3. Confiscated mobile devices must be collected by the pupil's parent/carer.
- 9.4. Bullying via mobile device will be disciplined in line with Overchurch Junior School's Anti-Bullying Policy.

10. Policy review

- 10.1. This policy is reviewed every two years by the headteacher.
- 10.2. The scheduled review date for this policy is July 2021.

Appendix 1: Pupil Personal Electronic Devices Agreement

Pupil Personal Electronic Devices Agreement

I, _____ understand that a personal electronic device is a privilege that may be taken away if I abuse it. I agree to abide by the policy and understand the consequences if I fail to do so.

Signed by

Pupil	Date:
Parent/Carer	Date:
Class Teacher	Date:

Parental Personal Electronic Devices Agreement

I, _____ recognise that Overchurch Junior School bears no responsibility for personal electronic devices lost, damaged or stolen on school property or on journey's to and from school. I agree to the terms of this policy and will discuss with them the responsibility of owning a personal electronic device with my child (name) _____. I understand that a teacher may confiscate devices used in an unacceptable manner as detailed in the policy.

Signed by

Parent/Carer	Date:
Class Teacher	Date: