



Laura Pearce
Headteacher

Friday 12th June

Dear Parents,

Implementation of Smartphone-Free Policy from September 2026

I am writing to inform you about an important update regarding our school environment. Following the collaborative initiative launched by local schools and Enfield Council, the vast majority of primary and secondary schools across the borough of Enfield have now successfully implemented smartphone-free policies. In alignment with this collective effort to protect our young people, **from September 2026, students will no longer be allowed to bring smartphones onto the school premises.**

There is increasing evidence that smartphone use has negative effects on the wellbeing and mental health of young people, and poses a number of significant safeguarding risks. Smartphone use has been linked to impaired attention and focus, sleep deprivation, mental health issues, online bullying, exposure to harmful online content and people, increased risk of mugging, and increased loneliness and social isolation.

We want young people to prioritise in-person interactions and to benefit from the stronger social skills, empathy and sense of community real-world interactions offer.

We understand that some older primary pupils walk home independently and may require a means of communication. Therefore, the following rules will now apply:

- If your Year Five or Six child requires a device for safety reasons during their commute, we strictly request that you provide a phone without internet connectivity (such as a basic 'brick' phone) or a tracking device like an AirTag in their bag.
- These basic phones or Airtags must be handed over and signed in to their class teacher at the beginning of the school day. They will be kept securely and given back to the children at the end of the day.
- Any smartphones brought onto the premises will be **confiscated immediately**. To ensure accountability, these will not be returned to the child; instead, parents will be required to come to the school office to collect them.

To protect our pupils outside of the school gates, **children should be strongly encouraged not to have any phone on display in public areas**. Phones should remain zipped away and out of sight during their journey home.

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I understand this may require an adjustment for some families and that is why I have given notice regarding the implementation of this policy. I hope that knowing this policy is uniform across the majority of Enfield schools gives you confidence and support in enforcing these boundaries at home. This will be discussed with the children so that they understand the expectations and reasoning to keep them safe. We ask that you also have this conversation at home.

For parents seeking more resources and research on this matter, you can find excellent guidance through the *Smartphone Free Childhood* movement or via Enfield Council's online safety resources.

Thank you for your continued partnership in making sure our students are happy, focused, and safeguarded.

Yours Sincerely,

Laura Pearce

Headteacher