



Use of Mobile Phones at Thornton Primary School

At Thornton Primary School, we recognise that many pupils own their own mobile phones. We recognise the value of a child carrying a mobile phone. However, at primary school this should not be necessary. The school policy on mobile phones is as follows:

- Pupils are not allowed to bring mobile phones on to the school site during the school day unless there are exceptional reasons for doing so.
- If a phone needs to be brought on to the school site for some exceptional reason, the pupil must switch it off, hand it into their Class Teacher on arrival and collect it when they depart.
- Pupils are not permitted to take mobile phones on educational visits.
- Staff may not use their mobile phones for personal calls or messages whilst they are directly in charge of pupils. (See staff handbook for further guidance) This is also a main point on the acceptable use policy which all staff sign yearly. (See policy for further information)
- The technology of mobile phones has developed such that they now have the facility to record sound, take photographs and video images. This technology is open to abuse leading to the invasion of privacy. Taking of such images, without permission, contravenes the Data Protection Act of 1998.
- In the event of a mobile phone being used to record sound, photographic or video images of any persons in the school, pupils or staff, the mobile phone will be confiscated, and parents/carers will be asked to collect the mobile phone on a date determined by the Headteacher.
- School reserves the right to confiscate mobile phones for a specified amount of time. This will be discussed with parents/carers if required.
- Mobile phones are expensive items and the school will not take any responsibility for the phone if it happens to be stolen or lost whilst in school.
- As most phones have access to 4G or 5G, the online safety policy must be adhered to when using mobile phones (see online safety policy). The school will take a strong stance on any children or staff using mobile phones in an inappropriate way in and out of school.

Date: September 2025

Review Date: September 2026

Signed: Mr David Ashcroft, Headteacher

To be agreed by the Standards and Effectiveness Committee on 04/11/2025