



Highcliffe St. Mark Primary School & Fledglings Pre-School

A Church of England Foundation School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As we begin the new term following the Christmas break, we are aware that some children may have received mobile phones or smart devices as gifts. We are therefore writing to remind families of our school policy regarding mobile phones and smart technology in school.

At Highcliffe St Mark Primary School, mobile phones are not permitted on site for pupils. The only exception is for children in Years 5 and 6 who walk independently to and from school. In these circumstances, a mobile phone may be brought for safety reasons only and must be switched off and handed directly to the class teacher on arrival each morning, where it will be stored securely until the end of the school day.

In addition, a parental permission form must be completed and returned to school before a child in Years 5 or 6 is allowed to bring a mobile phone onto the school site. This form can be found on our website [here](#).

We also remind parents that smartwatches are not allowed in school. These devices can distract from learning and, in many cases, have communication and internet access which conflicts with our safeguarding expectations.

Our approach reflects our strong commitment to pupil wellbeing and online safety. Highcliffe St Mark proudly advocates a smartphone-free childhood, supporting children to grow, learn, and socialise without unnecessary digital pressures. We actively support the Smartphone Free Childhood campaign, which provides valuable guidance for families on protecting children from the risks associated with early smartphone use. More information can be found at: www.smartphonefreechildhood.org

We are grateful for your continued support in helping us maintain a calm, focused and safe learning environment for all our pupils. If you have any questions about this policy, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Claire Barker
Headteacher



PROUD TO BE A
MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL
2023 - 2024

