

	Corpus Christi Catholic Primary & Pre School Mobile Phone Policy
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*Joyfully, unique in Jesus' family we learn to use our special gifts
to love, serve and make the world a better place.*

Approval		Board of Governors	
Chairperson	Joanna Hooper	Headteacher	Simon Lennon
Date of last review	New policy	Date of review	July 2026
Date of next review	July 2029	Maintenance	FGB

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me John 10:28

Introduction

As a Catholic school, we are committed to fostering a safe, respectful and focused learning environment that promotes the dignity and wellbeing of every child. Mobile phones can be a useful means of communication between parents and carers and their children; however, they can also present risks and distractions within the school environment.

To support safeguarding, learning, and positive social interaction, this school **does not permit pupils to bring a phone to school**. This includes smartphones, 'brick phones' and all other devices to include smartwatches and other similar devices.

Please note that for the purposes of this policy, the term 'mobile phone' covers any electronic device with the capacity to be used as a form of communication, either through the device itself or any applications stored on the device.

Statutory Guidance

Statutory Guidance published by the Department of Education on 29th June 2026 states that from 1st September 2026: *'All schools should be mobile phone-free environments by default; anything other than this should be by exception only.'*

'Effective implementation of the policy should ensure all pupils and parents understand and meet the expectations of behaviour relating to mobile phones.'

Aims

In line with Government updated *'Guidance on Mobile Phones in Schools 2026'* a mobile phone free school:

- Protects pupils from online risks and inappropriate content during the school day
- Minimises distractions and maximises learning opportunities
- Supports safeguarding and child protection
- Encourage healthy social interactions and personal development

While it may be seen as a benefit to pupils walking to and from school to have a mobile phone for parents/carers to track their movements, police advice states that the risks outweigh this. There are associated risks such as potential for theft, bullying and inappropriate contact including grooming by unsuitable persons.

Alongside this, children who are concentrating on using their phone can have reduced general safety awareness which may result in road accidents and/or injury if a child is not paying attention to their surroundings.

Exceptional circumstances

Where parents/carers consider it necessary for a child to bring a phone/device to school:

- A meeting must be arranged between the Headteacher and the parents/carers
- The decision to agree to a mobile device is at the discretion of the Headteacher
- **Agreement will only be given in exceptional circumstances**
- Should it be agreed the phone must be given to the school office each day at the beginning

- of the school day and collected at the end of each day
- The phone must be switched off upon arrival at school

Should there be a breach to this policy

If a pupil brings a prohibited device to school or fails to follow this policy:

- The device may be confiscated.
- Parents/carers will need to meet with the Headteacher before collecting the device
- Repeated breaches may result in further sanctions in line with the school's behaviour policy

Where safeguarding concerns arise the school will follow its child protection procedures.

Liability

In an exceptional circumstance where it is agreed that a pupil may bring a mobile device to school pupils do so at their own risk. While the school will take reasonable care of confiscated or stored devices it cannot accept responsibility for loss, theft, or damage unless caused by negligence.

Staff use of mobile phones:

- Mobile phones may not be used whilst in the presence of any pupils by any staff member unless in exceptional circumstances e.g. a medical emergency
- Camera or video functions on personal mobile phones must not be used by staff to take images of children under any circumstances
- Staff are not required to make work calls on their own phones, however, in exceptional circumstances, if this should be necessary then they are advised to use the prefix 141 before dialling the recipient's number to ensure their own number is protected
- Staff must never store parents/carers or children's telephone numbers on their mobile phones and staff must never give their private mobile number to parents/carers or children
- Failure by staff to comply with the mobile phone policy guidelines could result in disciplinary action

Visitors, Parents and Carers

- We ask all parents not to use mobile phones in the school. This includes all uses including, texting and photographing/filming
- Visitors are not allowed to use mobile phones on the school campus and phones must be kept in their bags. Mobile phones can be used in the staff room
- If a visitor, parent or carer is seen using their mobile phone, they will be asked politely to turn it off/desist from using it/remove it from children's view

The Use of Mobile Phones on School Trips (see Appendix 1)

- The teacher will bring the school mobile phone on the trip for use in contacting other staff members or volunteers on the trip, contacting the school or contacting the emergency services.
- Staff understand that all emergency contact numbers are not held on any mobile device or in any written form after the end of the trip.

Appendix 1

Use of mobile phones - guidance for volunteers on school trips

Thank you for volunteering to help on our trip. During the trip we ask that you follow the guidelines below in accordance with the school's mobile phone policy:

- Personal phones should not be used for any purpose for the duration of a day trip
- Personal mobile phones must not be used under any circumstance to take photographs or videos of pupils
- Volunteers are asked to set an example for the duration of the trip and therefore must not take photos or videos of any pupils, including their own child, using a mobile phone or any other mobile device, e.g. cameras or ipads
- Volunteers may be asked to take photographs of their group using a school device
- The teacher may ask volunteers to provide them with their mobile phone number for the duration of the trip so that they can be contacted in case of emergency. The teacher undertakes to ensure that these numbers are not held on any mobile device or in any written form after the end of the trip.

If you have any questions regarding these guidelines please speak to the teacher.

Thank you for your support and co-operation to ensure the safety of all the pupils.

