GREENWOOD ACADEMIES TRUST

CORBY PRIMARY ACADEMY

Mobile Phone Policy

Document Owner	Kirsty Foley
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Intent

At Corby Primary Academy, we are committed to creating a safe, happy and purposeful environment where every child can learn, grow and thrive.

We recognise that mobile phones and smart devices are an important part of modern life and may be needed by some children when travelling to and from school. However, we believe that the school day should be centred on learning, friendships, play and positive relationships. To support this, Corby Primary Academy operates as a mobile phone-free environment throughout the school day in line with DfE guidance Mobile phones in schools - GOV.UK

This policy aims to ensure that all children can focus on their learning, enjoy meaningful social interactions and remain safe from potential online and safeguarding risks. We work closely with parents and carers to promote responsible use of technology and to ensure that any devices brought onto the school site are managed safely and appropriately.

Through a consistent and supportive approach, we aim to create an environment where children are present, engaged and able to make the most of every school day.

Aims

The purpose of this policy is to support a calm, safe and inclusive school environment by:

- Promoting learning and concentration
- Protecting children's wellbeing and safety
- Encouraging positive social interaction and play
- Reducing distractions throughout the school day
- Supporting children to develop healthy and responsible relationships with technology
- Ensuring compliance with current DfE guidance on mobile phone use in schools

Academy Values and Expectations

At Corby Primary Academy, we are guided by our values of Respect, Resilience and Responsibility. Our mobile phone expectations support our children to demonstrate these values both online and offline by encouraging children to:

- Show Respect by giving their full attention to learning and to those around them.
- Demonstrate Resilience by engaging positively in lessons, play and friendships without unnecessary distractions.
- Take Responsibility by using technology safely, appropriately and in line with academy expectations.

By working together, staff, pupils and families help create an environment where everyone can learn, feel safe and thrive.







Mobile Phones

Corby Primary Academy prohibits the use of mobile phones and communication-enabled smart devices by pupils throughout the school day, including before school whilst on site, during lessons, breaktimes, lunchtimes and any school-led activities (i.e discos, movie nights etc)

Children may bring phones for travel purposes only. Phones must be switched off and handed to the designated staff member on their arrival into the Academy and collected at the end of the day. During the school day, all mobile phones will be stored in a locked cupboard in the classroom.

Smart Watches

Communication-enabled smart watches are treated as mobile phones (for example, the ability to send and/or receive notifications or messages via mobile phone networks or the ability to record audio and/or video) and may not be used during the school day. They should be switched to airplane mode or disabled by parents during the school day.

Consequences

Unauthorised use will result in confiscation and parental involvement. Serious misuse will be dealt with as a Level 4 behaviour consequence and any unauthorised photography, video recording, audio recording, social media or online communication involving children, staff of visitors may be treated as a safeguarding concern and managed in accordance with the Academy's safeguarding procedures. Further information can be found in the Academy's Behaviour Policy.

Exceptional Circumstances

Corby Primary Academy aims to maintain a mobile phone-free environment for all pupils. In exceptional circumstances, adjustments may be made to support a pupil's medical, disability-related or safeguarding needs. For example, this may include technology used as part of an agreed healthcare plan, such as glucose monitoring equipment. Any exceptions will be agreed on an individual basis, and the school will make reasonable adjustments in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

Staff and Visitors

Personal devices must be used professionally and never for photographing pupils.

Summary

At Corby Primary Academy, we want children to spend their school day focused on learning, playing, developing friendships and enjoying the many opportunities school provides. If your child needs a mobile phone for their journey to and from school, they are welcome to bring one. To help us maintain a safe and distraction-free environment, phones must be switched off and handed to a member of staff on arrival, where they will be stored securely until the end of the school day.

We appreciate the support of parents and carers in helping us create a school environment where children can fully engage in learning and enjoy being children.

Monitoring and Review

The Principal will review this policy annually to ensure compliance with DfE guidance and local safeguarding requirements.