



St George's Church of England Infant School

Screen Use Policy

Non-statutory

Date of Policy: September 2026	Review cycle: Annually	Review date: September 2027
Approved by: Head Teacher Victoria Harjette	Policy lead: Chelsea Castling	

At St George's CE Infant and preschool, we recognise that digital technology is part of children's everyday lives. However, in line with the EYFS Statutory Framework (2025), our priority is to ensure children develop through play, interaction, and real-world experiences.

This policy reflects current UK government guidance that screen use in early years should be:

- Limited
- Purposeful
- Developmentally appropriate
- Balanced with active learning and communication

Key principles

At St George's CE Infant School, we ensure that:

- Play is central to learning screen use never replaces hands-on, exploratory play.
- Technology adds value - screens are only used when they clearly enhance learning outcomes.
- Adults lead learning - screen use is always supervised and guided by staff.

At St George's children's development comes first, screens are used to support, not hinder.

Screen time expectations in school

We adopt the following guideline limits in line with national guidance:

- FS1 (Preschool): Up to 15 minutes per day
Lessons that regularly use a screen include Maths & PSE.
- FS2 (Reception): Up to 30–60 minutes per day, where appropriate.
Lessons that regularly use a screen include phonics, maths & PSE.

We recognise that some pupils with additional needs may require more frequent or personalised access to screen-based resources. This use is purposeful and supports learning, communication, and emotional regulation, in line with individual support plans. There also may be times where it is necessary for the limits

to be exceeded for the whole class- these will be infrequent and will adhere to acceptable uses of screen time.

Screens may be used to support:

- Communication & Language
 - Listening to stories
 - Listening to nursery rhymes
 - Physical Development
 - Dough disco
 - Musical Tracing maps
 - Gross Motor movements and dancing

- Social & Emotional development
 - PSE programme
 - Mindfulness/brain breaks
 - Affirmations

- Literacy
 - Pre-phonics environmental sounds
 - Phonics scheme videos
 - Displaying stimulus for talking and writing

- Mathematics
 - White Rose Maths PowerPoints
 - Maths games and videos

- Understanding the World
 - Exploring places, cultures, and nature (videos, photographs, maps)

- Expressive Arts & Design
 - Creating digital content (photographs & videos)
 - Listening to and creating music

When using screens for any purpose the activity must be:

- Interactive
- Adult-supported
- Linked to learning intentions

At St George's screens will never be used as:

- A substitute for supervision
- For passive watching for long periods
- As a replacement for lessons that can be delivered without a screen

Safeguarding and online safety

We ensure that:

- All devices use filtered and monitored internet access
- Children are supervised at all times
- Only age-appropriate content is used

Role of staff

At St George's Staff will ensure screens are used as an enhancement to aid quality first teaching by:

- Planning purposeful digital experiences
- Limiting screen time carefully

- Sitting and interacting with children during use (co-engagement)
- Asking questions and promoting talk
- Modelling safe and appropriate use
- Being mindful of correct vocabulary being used in digital content
- Ensuring screens do not dominate provision

Partnership with parents

At St George's we aim to work closely with families to promote healthy habits. We encourage parents to:

- Limit screen time at home
- Avoid screens before bedtime
- Watch and talk about content together
- Prioritise play, conversation, and outdoor activity