

St George's Church of England Infant and Preschool

Mobile Phone and Social Networking Policy



Date of Policy: September 2023

Review Date: September 2026

Signed: _____ Chair of Governors

Signed: _____ Head Teacher

Inspire, Believe, Achieve-With God, all things are possible, Matthew 19v26

Be inspired with all our mind, believe in ourselves to achieve and flourish

The 6 Principles of Nurture:

The nurturing approach offers a range of opportunities for children and young people to engage with missing early nurturing experiences, giving them the social and emotional skills to do well at school and with peers, to develop their resilience and capacity to deal more confidently with the trials and tribulations of life, for life.

1. Children's learning is understood developmentally
2. The classroom offers a safe base
3. The importance of nurture for the development of wellbeing
4. Language is a vital means of communication
5. All behaviour is communication
6. The importance of transition in children's lives

1. Mobile Phones (with or without cameras) and cameras

- At St George's CE Infant and Preschool we believe our staff should be completely attentive during their hours of working, to ensure all children in the School receive good quality care, education and safety of the children. This is why mobile phones are not to be used during school working hours in the presence of children.
- Working Hours are 8.45 am – 3.00 pm.
- Mobile phones should not be used to take photos in the presence of children.
- Each Class is provided with a camera for use in school and on school trips. This is the responsibility of the Class Teacher. Images can only be saved to the school network.
- Admin staff update termly the list of children whose parents give consent for images to be used. A copy is displayed in the Head Teacher's office and main office.
- Mobile phones are to be locked away in individual lockers or in a desk drawer when in classrooms during school working hours. Mobile phones should be switched to silent whilst in school, during lesson times and when children are present.
- Mobile phones must not be used unless on a designated break, and then this must be in the staffroom or offices and not in the presence of children (should there be children in the staffroom).
- Members of staff are expected to give contact details out using the school's telephone number – 01494 762552. Messages will be passed to you as soon as possible.
- Mobile phones may be used in the school office / staff room / Head Teacher's office when not in the presence of children.
- The Headteacher has a statutory power to search a pupil or their possessions where they have reasonable grounds to suspect that the pupil is in possession of a mobile phone or similar device.

2. Social Networking

- If a comment is made about the school or a member of staff on any social networking site this should be reported to the Head Teacher. The Head Teacher will take appropriate action and if necessary, notify the responsible representatives at the Local Authority.
- Restrictions need to be in place on staff when they access social networking sites. The School has a high reputation to upkeep, and comments made on social networking sites such as 'Facebook', 'Twitter', 'Instagram', etc, could have an impact on how parents and the wider community view the staff and school.
- Staff must not post anything onto social networking sites such as 'Facebook', 'Twitter', 'Instagram', etc, that could be construed to have any impact on the School's reputation nor about members of staff, children or families at the school.
- Staff must ensure their social networking site settings and profiles are secure to restrict access to their posts/photos, etc and protect their privacy to those not 'permitted' to view their content.
- School ICT facilities should not be used for social networking; many of these sites are barred already.
- Staff must not post anything onto social networking sites that could offend any other member of staff or parent using the School.
- If staff choose to allow parents to view their page on social networking sites then this relationship must remain professional at all times.

Visitors and volunteers are made aware of this policy and are politely requested to not use their mobile phone when in school.

A copy of this policy is shared with every member of staff and displayed in the staffroom and the policy file in the Headteacher's office.