



# Hampton Hargate Primary School

## Use of Mobile Phone and other Smart Devices Policy

Date: AUTUMN 2023  
Review date: AUTUMN 2024

Hampton Hargate Primary School believes that all children, regardless of ability and behaviour are valued equally. Groups of pupils (eg. SEND pupils, children in care, EAL pupils etc) are not viewed as separate but are part of the whole school approach. Different children's needs are recognised and met through varied and flexible provision and the use of different styles of teaching & learning throughout the curriculum. Every Child Matters (ECM) is an important part of the school ethos and we encourage all staff, governors, visitors, helpers etc to play their part in promoting this. This policy therefore applies to all our children, regardless of their gender, faith, race, culture, family circumstances or sexuality.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare and safety of all children and expects all staff to share in this commitment. All staff must follow the guidelines set out in the relevant section of **myconcern®** which is available online.

## **Policy statement**

Mobiles phones and other smart devices (e.g tablets, smart watches etc..) have become a common possession and are increasingly complex and sophisticated. Many people view them as an essential part of modern life. There are however many issues that relate to mobile phone use, or indeed possession, in school:

- Disturbance of lessons and loss of concentration in class.
- Worry at responsibility for an expensive item.
- Potential for theft.
- Potential bullying situations.
- Unwanted and uncontrolled photographs and video footage.
- All the hazards involving online issues such as cyber bullying, grooming and personal security.
- Adults talking on the phone and not giving their full attention to the children in their care.
- Personal conversations being overheard.

## **Procedure**

- Mobile phones should be kept out of sight and reach of children.
- Except in emergency situations, no mobile phones are to be used during lesson times and/or while supervising children.
- We request that all phones on the premises are on silent.
- We do not allow pupils in Reception to Year 4 (inclusive) to bring mobile phones into school. Although we do not encourage pupils in Year's 5 & 6 to bring in their phones, we recognise that some parents allow their child/ren to walk to/from school alone and want the reassurance that their child can contact them and vice versa on their way to/from school. If a Year 5 or 6 child brings their phone into school, we require a signed consent form from parents/carers and expect all devices to be handed to the class teacher at the start of the day. The phones will be kept secure and handed back to your child/ren at the end of the school day.

Review date - Autumn 2024.