



WILLIAM HARDING SCHOOL  
Aim high... Work hard... Be kind...

# WILLIAM HARDING SCHOOL

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Head Teacher: Miss T Cotchin BA(Hons) PGCE NPQH



17 July 2023

Dear parents and carers,

## Re: Y6 mobile phones and walking home Y5 and 6

As pupils get older, some parents start to allow their children to travel some, or all, of the way to school alone. We sometimes have parents ask about whether their child can have a phone with them for their journey.

We understand that in these situations, having a phone with the child can be reassuring.

### Y6 bringing in a mobile phone

We only allow Y6 pupils to bring their phone to school and only if they are travelling to and from home alone.

#### Bringing the phone in

If a pupil must have a phone with them due to travelling alone, it must be turned off before the child comes on to the school site. It must be placed inside a named, clear plastic bag. It must be handed in to the class teacher immediately.

The phones will be collected in and locked away during the day and will be handed back at the end of the day. We accept no liability for any loss or damage to phones brought in, they come in at the owner's risk.

Children are not allowed to turn on their phone on the school site. They will not have access to it until they leave at the end of the day. Any child found using a phone on school site will not be allowed to bring it in moving forward.

#### Smart watches

We understand that some children have smart watches linked to their phones. We ask that children do not wear smart watches to school. We cannot accept any liability for loss or damage to smart watches and children are not permitted to use any mobile phone functions in school – all smart watches must only be used to tell the time.

**Our School Values are: Inclusion, Perseverance, Honesty, Respect, Responsibility and Collaboration.**



## Consent Form

If your child must bring in a phone then we must have a consent form completed prior to the phone coming in by a parent / carer. If you completed one for the current school year, you must complete a new one for 2023-24.

We have attached a copy of the consent form below. Paper copies can be requested from Y5 and 6 staff.

### Year 5 and 6 walking to and / or from school alone

We also need to have your permission to allow a child to leave at the end of the day without being collected by an adult. We have created a form that must be completed to provide that permission. If there are changes you can go back into the form. Staff will print the form off each half term to ensure that they have up to date permissions. If there is a change during the half term, please inform the class teacher – either in person or by email.

It is also useful for us to know if your child is walking to school alone so that we can check on their attendance and make sure we know where they are if they do not arrive.

The link below can be used to give permission. Please complete the form if you wish your child to walk home, part or all of the way, for the school year 2023-24. You need to complete this again if you gave permission for the last school year.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=nJZ7rxRvMkSMhjkRLkXigDvVGEUPn9NPji-CXJxdN3hUNzhCMjvZSEo1NVoxNUhUSIFJV09ETzI3Ri4u>

Kind regards,

Mrs Skinner

Inclusion, Pastoral and Safeguarding lead

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## Mobile Phone Consent Form

I give permission for my child to bring a phone into school with them. I confirm that that they need to have their phone with them because they travel to and / or home from school alone.

My child will bring the phone into school in a named bag and the phone will be switched off. My child will hand their phone to their teacher on arrival in the classroom. I understand my child will not have access to the phone until the end of the school day.

I will ensure my child understands that they cannot use their phone on school premises.

I understand that the school accepts no liability for loss or damage to the phone and that the phone is brought into school at the owner's risk.

Name of child \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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