



MOUNTNESSING CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mobile Phone /Smartphone Free Policy

APPROVED BY GOVERNORS: 1st September 2026

POLICY TO BE REVIEWED: September 2029

Mission Statement

Unlock every child's potential as a unique child of God.

Our aim is to ensure that every child's unique strengths are celebrated and strengthened alongside gaining an excellent academic, social, emotional and physical education.

1. Policy Rationale

At Mountnessing we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all pupils. Increasingly, the use of smartphones among young people is having a detrimental impact on mental health, sleep, attention, and overall development. Research and experience have identified the following concerns associated with smartphone use in school-aged children:

- Increased rates of anxiety and depression
- Sleep disruption and reduced attention span
- Risk of cyberbullying and exposure to harmful or inappropriate content
- Patterns of use consistent with behavioural addiction
- Reduced engagement with learning and important life skills

Considering these concerns, and in line with our commitment to creating a safe and focused learning environment, the following policy outlines the permitted use of mobile phones and portable devices on school premises.

2. General Guidelines

Reception to Year 5: Mobile phones and portable devices are not permitted on school premises.

Year 6 may bring an approved non-smartphone device if travelling independently and leave at the school office during the day.

Permitted Phone Models

Nokia 105, Samsung E1200, Alcatel 10.16G, or another similar non-smartphone device. Smartphones are not permitted.

Medical Exceptions

Exemptions may be granted where a device is required for a diagnosed medical condition and approved by the Headteacher.

3. Conditions for Approved Phone Use

Phones must be labelled, switched off, handed into the school office on arrival, used only after school away from entrances, and remain the responsibility of the pupil.

4. Confiscation and Searches

Staff may search and confiscate phones in accordance with DfE guidance. Parents will be notified of all confiscations.

5. Review and Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed annually and updated as required.