



St Mark's C.E. Primary School

Talbot Village, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH10 4JA

Headteacher: Andrew Bright

4 September 2026

MOBILE PHONE USE BY PUPILS Y5 & 6 ONLY

Dear Parents and Carers,

St Mark's CE Primary School is a phone-free school and has operated this approach successfully for several years.

In line with the Department for Education's guidance, *Mobile phones in schools*, pupils are not permitted to access or use mobile phones during the school day.

Mobile phones should only be brought to school where they are **essential** for a child's **personal safety** when travelling to and from school. In such cases, parental permission must be obtained in advance and the phone must be handed to the school office immediately upon arrival, where it will be stored until the end of the school day.

We also encourage parents and carers to consider delaying the purchase of a smartphone and, where a phone is needed for safety reasons, recommend a simple 'brick phone' capable of making calls and sending text messages.

Key points:

- Mobile phones should only be brought to school where they are **essential** for a child's **personal safety**.
- Only children with a signed parental agreement are allowed to bring a phone to school.
- Mobile phones must be taken directly to the school office, before the start of the school day, prior to coming into school. These can only be collected after pupils have been dismissed by their teacher or after school club at the end of the day.
- At all times, they must use them sensibly and appropriately.
- At no point should a pupil have a mobile phone in their bag, locker or about their person in school.
- Any mobile phones found in school will be confiscated and must be collected by a parent or carer at the end of the day.

If you feel it is essential for your child's personal safety while walking to and from school, please complete the agreement form.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Kind regards,

Mr Bright
Headteacher



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Children's Mobile Phone Permission Form

Children in Year 5 and Year 6 should only bring a mobile phone to school if it is **essential** e.g. for **personal safety** when walking to or from school.

If you believe it is essential for safety reasons that your child brings a phone to school, please sign and return this consent form.

Name of child: _____ Class: _____

Safety reasons why this mobile phone use is essential: _____

I understand and agree that:

- Pupils' phones will be kept in the school office during the day.
- All pupil phones must be switched off completely before entering the school office.
- Mobile phones must be taken directly to the school office, before the start of the school day, prior to coming into school.
- Phones can only be collected after pupils have been dismissed at 3pm.
- At no point should a pupil have a mobile phone in their bag, locker or about their person in school.
- At all times when travelling, pupils must use devices sensibly and appropriately.
- Any mobile phones found in school will be confiscated and must be collected by a parent or carer at the end of the day.
- I understand that mobile phones are brought to school entirely at the owner's risk and the school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones.
- I also understand that should my child misuse their phone, the school will withdraw permission for them to bring it.

Parent/carers signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/carers print name: _____

Child's signature: _____

School signature: _____ Date: _____

Mobile Phones in School Statement

St Mark's CE Primary School fully complies with the Department for Education's guidance *Mobile phones in schools*.

We are a phone-free school and have operated this approach successfully for several years. Pupils are not permitted to access or use mobile phones during the school day.

Mobile phones may only be brought to school where they are essential for a child's personal safety when travelling to and from school. In these circumstances:

- parental permission must be obtained in advance;
- phones must be handed directly to the school office before the start of the school day;
- phones are securely stored by the school throughout the day;
- phones may only be collected once pupils have been dismissed at the end of the school day or after an authorised after-school club.

At no point should a pupil have a mobile phone in their possession, bag or locker whilst in school. Any phone found in school will be confiscated and must be collected by a parent or carer.

We would strongly encourage parents and carers to consider delaying the purchase of a smartphone for their child. Where a mobile phone is needed for safety reasons, we recommend a simple phone capable of making calls and sending text messages, rather than a smartphone. This enables children to remain contactable when travelling to and from school whilst reducing exposure to social media, online risks and unnecessary distractions.

These arrangements ensure that mobile phones are not used during the school day and support a calm, safe and focused learning environment. Our arrangements fully comply with the Department for Education's guidance on mobile phones in schools.