



# Dobcroft Junior School

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Friday 12th December 2025

## Parental Feedback for a Smartphone Policy

Dear Parents and Carers,

You may be aware that over the past year, our school has been working with an organisation called Smartphone Free Childhood. It's a movement driven by families, carers, teachers, and children promoting a Smartphone Free Childhood. They have a wealth of resources available to browse on their website: <https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/>

In principle, our governors have agreed that our school will become *smartphone-free*. That means no smartphones on school grounds – for any children. The aim of this is to create the kind of space we believe children thrive in, allowing focus, creativity, friendships and real connection come first. We aim to create healthier childhoods, free from the pull of addictive algorithms and 24/7 accessible internet.

We recognise that families - both parents and children themselves – can feel under pressure when it comes to smartphones. We have heard from parents that they question when to provide a smartphone, if they should provide a smartphone and how a smartphone should be managed.

Our proposals also mirror existing practice at local schools, including Silverdale Secondary School, where many of our pupils will transition to.

### What changes are proposed at Dobcroft Junior School?

We therefore intend to incorporate into our relevant policies that our school is a smartphone free environment. This may include the following points:

- Smartphones not being allowed on school grounds for any children.
- Children who travel to or from school independently could bring a simple, non-smart mobile (just calls/texts), with permission from the headteacher. These would be handed to the office on arrival and collected at the end of the day.
- Smart watches would also not be permitted.
- If there were exceptional circumstances that would require your child to bring a smartphone into school each day, for example if it is used as a medical device, then this would be by agreement of the headteacher

Governors wish to gather parent and carer views regarding this change and we therefore welcome any comments. If you have any comments about the points above, or other views relating to Dobcroft Junior School becoming Smartphone Free, please let us know by Friday 9th January via this Google Form: <https://forms.gle/LFzp7tNtiv9iiyD17>

Many thanks,

Nicola Sexton & Paul Harrison

Headteacher & Assistant Headteacher

