



Dobcroft Junior School

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Friday 5th June 2026

Reminder: Dobcroft Junior School is Smartphone Free

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 5

Smartphone Free School

We are writing to remind you that our school is smartphone free. This decision was taken by governors in the spring term following a period of parent consultation.

Our school policy is that any pupil wishing to bring a phone to school, may only do so in exceptional circumstances through a request made by parents/carers to the head teacher. From September 2026 this system will remain, however if a request is authorised it will **only be for a feature free phone** (no internet access).

As your child moves towards year 6 you may have already bought your child a phone, or are about to and we wanted to remind you that **if it is a smart phone it will not be allowed in school.**

For pupils who currently have permission to bring a phone to school, we kindly request that, by September, they replace their smartphones with feature free phones that do not have internet access, or do not bring their smartphones to school at all.

Recommendations for Feature Free phones can be found here:

<https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/alternatives>

This policy is in line with other local schools: Silverdale Secondary School, which many of our children transition to, have the same 'Feature-Free Phone' policy in place; Mercia School is a mobile phone free school where pupils are not allowed mobile phones, or any other form of electronic device.

Mobile Phone Free School- Polite Reminder

To support our pupils and set a positive example, we also want to remind all parents that the entire school site is a mobile phone-free zone, in accordance with our Online Safeguarding Policy. This includes when adults are visiting the school building (for example, assemblies and work showcases), as well as drop off and pick up on the school playgrounds.



Year 5 Workshops

In addition, Year 5 will also be taking part in free workshops organised by Papaya - <https://www.papayatalks.com/>. Ruth Fitzell will be delivering an interactive session to each class entitled 'Me and my screen' that will allow the children to reflect thoughtfully on their screen time and digital choices. These will take place on **Thursday 9th July within the regular school day.**

Thank you for your understanding and support as we work together to create a focused and safe learning environment for all our pupils.

Many thanks,

Nicola Sexton & Paul Harrison
Headteacher & Assistant Headteacher