



Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs M Fusi

"Live, love and learn joyfully in the family of Christ"

Smartphone Free Childhood Continued.....

11th July 2025

Dear Parents,

In a follow up to our previous letter, we want to celebrate the fact that as a school we are championing a smartphone free childhood at Sacred Heart School from September 2025.

We are keen to make Sacred Heart School a smartphone free school, and to implement a new policy whereby smartphones are no longer allowed on school premises. The new policy will be effective from September 2025. This decision has been made to better safeguard the learning environment, ensure the welfare of all students, and uphold the ethos of our school community. Any smartphone that is found will be confiscated and returned to parents at the end of the week.

If your child is in Year 6 and will be walking home independently and you would like them to be contactable on their way to and from school, please provide them with a simple phone (without access to the internet). These phones will need to be handed in for safekeeping at the start of the school day and will be returned at the end of the day. **We would love it if adults also supported this initiative by keeping their own smartphones put away in a pocket or bag while on site.**

For some children there may be exceptional circumstances that require them to bring a smartphone into school each day, for example if it is used as a medical device. If this is the case, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance.

We understand that many parents don't want to give their child a smartphone but feel they have no choice because everyone else is. No parent wants to isolate their child from their peer group. The solution to this problem lies in better regulation of the tech industry, but enacting legislation takes years, time that this generation of children don't have. Meanwhile our most powerful defence lies in taking collective action at school and at home.

Therefore, we strongly encourage parents to resist the pressure from your children and their peers and hold back on giving your children smartphones until **at least the end of year 9**. If we all work together, social pressure is removed, and no child is the odd one out.

Our children's futures are so important, to you and to us. In a world where fast-changing and unregulated technology is impacting the development of our children's brains, it is up to us to stand up for them, and their futures.

Yours Sincerely,

Michelle Fusi

Headteacher

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