The Federation of Cwmfelinfach

and

Ynysddu Primary Schools



Mobile Phone Policy

Policy History	
Written	March 2022, 24,26
Agreed by Governing Body	March 2026

Cwmfelinfach and Ynysddu Primary School

Mobile Phones and Smart Devices Policy

Rationale

Cwmfelinfach and Ynysddu Primary Schools recognise that the presence of mobile phones and smart devices presents significant challenges to how pupils' behaviour and learning within school settings. There is increasing evidence that excessive use of mobile phones and smart devices can have a detrimental impact on pupils' mental health, well-being and progress. These concerns have been highlighted by organisations such as PISA, UNESCO and Estyn.

Policy Aims

By limiting the use of mobile phones in school, this policy aims to help establish a calm, safe and supportive learning environment that is conducive to teaching, learning and keeping children safe. It complements the school's safeguarding, e-safety and behaviour policies.

This policy is intended to contribute to:

- Enhancing social interactions between pupils
- Tackling cyberbullying
- Promoting pupils' health and well-being
- Strengthening pupils' resilience
- Preventing safeguarding and security concerns

For the purposes of this policy, the term **"mobile phones"** is used to encompass a range of smart devices that pupils might bring to school, including smartwatches, tablets, music players and gaming consoles.

Policy Outline

Pupils must not bring mobile phones or smart devices to school.

However, we recognise that in exceptional circumstances a pupil may need to bring a phone to school.

Although not an exhaustive list, devices covered by this policy include:

- Mobile phones
- Smartwatches
- Tablets (e.g. iPads, Android tablets)
- Laptops with cellular connectivity
- Portable gaming consoles with internet connectivity (e.g. Nintendo Switch)
- Smart eyewear
- Fitness trackers with messaging capabilities
- Portable media players with internet access
- E-readers with internet connectivity
- Portable GPS devices with internet connectivity

Where there is a breach of this policy, phones or devices will be securely stored in the school office until the end of the school day and parents/carers will be informed.

The school accepts no responsibility for mobile phones or related devices that are lost, damaged or stolen on school premises, during school visits or trips, or while pupils are travelling to and from school.

Exceptions

Only pupils who have **written permission from their parents/carers** and agreement from the school may bring a mobile phone to school.

Where this exception is agreed:

- The phone must be switched off on arrival.
- It must be handed into the school office at the start of the day.
- It will be stored securely during the school day.
- The pupil must collect the phone from the office at the end of the school day.

Parents/carers must complete a permission slip to request this exception.

The school will also make reasonable adjustments for pupils who require mobile devices for accessibility, equality or medical reasons. Use of such devices will be limited to meeting the specific needs of the pupil.

Review

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Adopted: March 2026
Review date: March 2027

Reference Documents and Useful Links

- Rights, Respect, Equality: Statutory Guidance for Governing Bodies of Maintained Schools (Welsh Government, 2019)
- Wales Safeguarding Procedures
- Safeguarding Children (Welsh Government)
- School Behaviour and Discipline (Welsh Government)
- School Bullying (Welsh Government)
- *Technology in Education: On Whose Terms?* (UNESCO, 2023)

UNCRC

Article 27 of the UNCRC states that children and young people should be able to live in a way that helps them reach their full physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social potential.

Cwmfelinfach and Ynysddu Primary School

Mobile Phone Parent Permission Form

Pupil name:	**Date:**
Year group/class:	
Parents/Carers name:	
The school has agreed to allow:	
To bring their mobile phone to school: (reason)	
By signing this agreement, I agree to abide by the school's policy on the use of mobile phones and its acceptable use agreement. ***I acknowledge that school accepts no responsibility for mobile phones that are lost, damaged, or stolen on school premises, during school visits or trips, or while travelling to and from school.***	
The school reserves the right to remove permission if pupils do not abide by the policy.	
Parent Signature:	

Waiver

Parent/Carer Name……

I hereby acknowledge and agree that the federated primary schools of Cwmfelinfach and Ynysddu will not be held responsible for any phones or electronic devices brought to school by pupils, including but not limited to loss, damage, or theft that may occur on school premises, during school activities, or while pupils are travelling to and from school.

I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure the safekeeping of my child's phone/device and that I release Cwmfelinfach and Ynysddu primary Schools from any liability in connection with such items.

Signed……
