



January 2020

Dear Parents

We are aware that more children have their own mobile phones and bring them into school. Whilst we discourage this, we understand that parents/carers give their children mobile phones to protect them from everyday risks involving personal security and safety.

Ongoing and recent technological advances have enabled mobile phones to become multi-functional and far more sophisticated. For example, nearly all mobile phones have the facility to take photos and/or video and allow access to the internet.

We have encountered incidents where phones/ipods have been used in wholly unacceptable ways, such as taking photos or videos on the school premises and posting them on Social Networking sites, as well as for inappropriate messaging while on the school premises at the beginning and end of the day. Parents/Carers should also be aware that there are members of the school community who must not, under any circumstances, appear in photographs or videos.

Children may not keep a phone in their bag or use it on the school premises during the day. If you wish your child to bring a phone into school it must be handed in at the School Office for safe keeping at the beginning of the day. I would be grateful if you could please read and sign the agreement shown over the page which should be returned to school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs H Walters
Headteacher

PEMBURY SCHOOL MOBILE PHONE AGREEMENT

Responsibility

It is the responsibility of pupils who bring mobile phones to school to abide by the guidelines outlined in this document.

The decision to provide a mobile phone to their children should be made by parents or carers. Parents/carers should be aware if their child takes a mobile phone to school.

Acceptable Uses

Mobile phones should be switched off upon arrival at school and handed into the school office where they will be locked away until the end of the day.

At the end of the school day, mobile phones will be returned to the pupils who should not switch their phone on until they have left the school. The school premises is not the place for pupils to be exchanging phone numbers, accessing the internet, sending messages or making calls to friends.

Unacceptable uses

Unless express permission is granted, mobile phones should not be used to make calls, send SMS messages, surf the internet, take photos or use any other application during school time.

The Bluetooth function of the phone must be switched off at all times and should not be used to send images or files to other mobile phones.

Using mobile phones to bully or threaten other pupils is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. In some cases it can constitute criminal behaviour and will be dealt with accordingly.

Theft damage

Mobile phones that are found in the school whose owner cannot be located should be handed in to the school office.

The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones.

The school accepts no responsibility for pupils who lose or have their mobile phones stolen while travelling to and from school.

It is strongly advised that pupils use passwords/pin numbers to ensure that unauthorised phone calls cannot be made on their phones. Pupils must keep their pin numbers/passwords confidential.

Sanctions

Pupils who infringe the rules set out in this document will not be allowed to bring their mobile phone into school.

On the first infringement the mobile phone would be confiscated by the teacher and taken to a secure place within the school office. The pupil will be able to collect the mobile phone at the end of the day and a record will be made of the incident. A letter will also be sent to the parent/carer.

Second infringement: parents must collect the phone and permission to bring it into school will be withdrawn.

Parent /Guardian permission

I have read and understand the above information about appropriate use of mobile phones at Pembury Primary School and I understand that this form will be kept on file at the school.

I give my child permission to carry a mobile to school and understand that my child will be responsible for ensuring that the mobile phone is used appropriately and correctly while under the school's supervision, as outlined in this document.

Parent name: _____

Parent signature: _____

Pupil name: _____

Pupil signature: _____

Date: _____

Pupil Mobile phone number: _____