

White Laith Primary School **Policy for Mobile Phones in School**

Agreed by Governors: October 2023
Review date: October 2027

Safeguarding

At White Laith we are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our pupils so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We believe every pupil should be able to participate in all school activities in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from harm. This is the responsibility of every adult employed by or invited to deliver services at White Laith. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all our pupils by protecting them from physical, sexual or emotional abuse, neglect and bullying.

We also exercise this responsibility by educating our children so that they grow in their understanding of their rights and responsibilities to themselves and others, in safety consciousness, and, in their maturity and abilities to keep themselves and others safe.

We perceive this to be part of our role in promoting British values

Mobile Phones – Possession and use

Mobile phones are a part of modern society and the school accepts that many students will possess mobile phones. They are useful tool, especially where the issue of safety during the journey to and from school is concerned, and the school acknowledges that parents and students would want them to be able to achieve this. However, teachers and students have a right to teach and learn in a school environment which is free from interruption by mobile phones and other such devices.

Mobile phones in schools present a number of challenges. These include:

- Mobile phones interrupting lessons and disrupting the learning of others
- Possible theft of mobile phones
- The ever increasing sophistication of mobile phone technology which increase the possibilities of inappropriate use
- The need for students to be responsible with regard to the care of their possessions

The school recognizes the benefits that mobile phones offer students and parents and realizes that an outright ban would result in a loss of these benefits. However, it is the schools' responsibility to promote the safe and responsible use of mobile phones during the school day. Whilst the school would prefer students not to have mobile phones in school but rather use the existing facilities in

school, we realise that this cannot cover the period when students are travelling to and from school. It is against the above background that the following policy is adopted.

Policy

- Students are discouraged from bringing mobile phones to school
- Parents are reminded that urgent messages should be transmitted via the school office
- The school accepts no responsibility for mobile phones and undertakes no responsibility to investigate misplacement, loss or theft.
- Teachers must collect all mobile telephones from the children at the start of the school day and store them in a secure location in the classroom.
- Teachers should return the mobile telephones to the appropriate children at the end of the school day.