THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

The Methodist Church

John Fletcher of Madeley
Primary School

Mobile Phone and Electronic Device Policy

Date of policy creation:	September 2025 Reviewed September 2026
Date of policy review:	September 2027

Students' Mobile Phone and Personal Electronic Device Policy Legal Framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including,but not limited to, the following:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2026 (or current version in force)
- Searching, Screening and Confiscation Advice for Schools (latest version)
- The Data Protection Act 2018

Emerging Technologies

The school recognises that mobile phones and electronic devices continue to evolve and may include access to social media, artificial intelligence tools, livestreaming platforms, encrypted messaging services, internet browsers, cameras and location-sharing functions. These technologies may present safeguarding, privacy and wellbeing risks. The school will review emerging risks regularly and take appropriate action to protect pupils and staff.

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Anti-bullying Policy
- Online Safety Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Behaviour Policy

Rationale

All points in this policy apply to any device which is internet-enabled including all:

- Mobile phones including Android phones, Phones, Smartphones.
- Personal Digital Assistants.
- Handheld entertainment systems and associated equipment including gamesconsoles, CD players, DVD players, MP3 players, iPods and earphones.
- Portable internet devices such as ipads.
- Electronic reading devices (E-Readers) including Kindles.
- Smartwatches capable of making calls, sending messages, recording audio or images, accessing the internet or using artificial intelligence functions will be treated in the same way as mobile phones.

John Fletcher of Madeley School's policy regarding mobile phones and all of the above electronic devices is that they should not be used at all on the school site for the following reasons:

- Using these items during the school day could potentially disrupt teachingand learning.
- Create, possess, share or distribute AI-generated, manipulated or "deepfake" images, video or audio intended to cause harm, bullying, harassment or sexual humiliation.
- Some of these devices can be used to bully, harass or emotionally harmothers.
- As mobile phones and other personal electronic devices are equipped to record sound, take photographs and video images, this technology is open tosignificant abuse.
- Devices with cameras present risk to vulnerable students and students invulnerable situations such as in the toilets.

- The devices listed above are not permitted in rooms where exams aretaking place.
- These items are usually of high value and are therefore at risk of beingstolen in school or on the way to or from school.

Mobile Phones and Personal Electronic Devices

Clearly the presence of mobile phones and personal electronic devices in school couldcause disruption to teaching and learning and can present safeguarding risks to children and staff.

Therefore, mobile phones and other personal electronic devices must be switched off before children enter the school site. Upon entering school, any electronic device must be handed in to the child's class teacher or teaching assistant, who will store the device securely in the school office. The child willbe given the electronic device back at the end of the school day; they should not be switched on again until the child has left the school site.

If mobile phones or other electronic devices are seen being used on the school site,they may be confiscated. This means they could be sent to the Main Office, placed in a named envelope, locked away and will need to be collected by a parent or carer.

In any case where a mobile phone or any other personal electronic device is used inschool to:

- Record, store, transmit, post or send inappropriate sound, photographs orvideo images.
- Send abusive, threatening, intimidating or inappropriate messages.
- cyberbullying, online harassment, discriminatory language, hate-related incidents, sexist, racist or homophobic abuse.
- Make abusive, threatening, intimidating or inappropriate phone calls including 'prank calling'.
- Create, possess, request, share or distribute nude or semi-nude images.
- Groom or radicalise another person.

The following types of action will be taken:

- The mobile phone or personal electronic device will be confiscated, and data may be examined by authorised members of staff in accordance with the latest DfE Searching, Screening and Confiscation guidance.
- Parents/carers will be informed.
- Children may be requested to either delete or keep data.
- The police and/or social care may be informed.
- The Channel Panel may be informed.
- A school sanction, including suspension or permanent exclusion where appropriate, may be applied.

Any parent/carer wishing to contact their child will be able to contact the Main Office. The message will then be passed to the child. If a child needs to contact their parents/carers, they should go to the school office who will do this for them.

We recognise that some parents/carers may want their children to bring mobile phones to school for safety reasons when travelling to/from school. Parents/carers should be aware that we take no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones or personal electronic devices either at school or travelling to or from

school. Mobile phones and other personal electronic devices brought into school are done so at the owner's risk.

Next review:
September 2027
(or sooner should legislation or advice differ)