



4th November 2025

Dear Families,

Academic research is clear that mobile phone and smart watch use in school are a distraction, negatively impact wellbeing, behaviour, progress and attainment. Smart watches also enable access to apps we cannot control or monitor in school.

Further to our update on smartphones, we wanted to clarify for all parents/carers that the federation will not be allowing pupils to wear or have smartwatches in school after October half term. **Devices that have internet access and access to games are not allowed on the premises.**

Unfortunately, we are seeing a growing number of pupils using these watches to message during school time and/or play games. In addition, some pupils have had watches broken. The use of smart watches also causes unnecessary distraction, and peer pressure of owning expensive devices.

Whilst we appreciate that there are school mode options for these devices, pupils can easily change the mode themselves or do not have the control in use. Teachers are unable to monitor this and our policy is clear that devices with games on are not allowed in school whether on or off.

If your child currently wears a smart watch to school they will now be asked to place this in the phone box during school time from today and the watches will not be allowed on school premises from Monday 3rd November 2025.

To keep our children safe, it is essential they are media literate, and have boundaries. Holding regular discussions within the household around online safety, challenges and dangers, fake news, and algorithms helps children to reflect on and evaluate their own and others digital safety.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Kind Regards,

Madeline Southern
Executive Headteacher