



Itchen Abbas Primary School

School Lane, Itchen Abbas, Winchester, Hampshire, SO21 1BE
Headteacher: Mr. R Bogan (BA Hons)

01962 779310

admin@itchenabbas.org.uk
www.itchenabbasprimary.co.uk

 @IAPSUK

Friday 16th May 2025

Dear Parents

Re: Transition to a Smartphone-Free School Environment from September 2025

At Itchen Abbas Primary School, we are committed to fostering a safe, focused, and nurturing environment for our children. In line with this commitment, I am writing to inform you that from September 2025, our school will become a smartphone-free environment. Most children in the school do not bring a mobile phone to school and therefore for them, nothing will change. We believe that it is not necessary for any child at Itchen Abbas Primary School to own a mobile phone of any kind. Our aim is to protect our children from potential online risks and to promote their well-being and academic focus by working together with parents.

Rationale for the Policy Change:

- **Safeguarding and Online Safety:** Smartphones can provide access to the internet and social media platforms, exposing children to inappropriate content and online interactions that may not be suitable for their age.
- **Mental Health and Well-being:** Excessive smartphone use has been linked to issues such as anxiety, sleep disturbances, and reduced attention spans.

We understand that some parents may wish for their children at home, especially those in older year groups preparing for independent travel to secondary school, to have a means of communication. In such cases, we recommend considering basic mobile phones that are limited to calling and texting functionalities, without internet or social media access. Models such as the Nokia 105 or Nokia 2660 Flip are suitable options. These devices are available from retailers like Argos and Amazon, typically priced between £20 and £65.

Should you decide that your child needs to bring a mobile phone to school for specific reasons, please submit a written request to me for consideration. Approved devices must be handed in at the school office upon arrival and collected at the end of the school day as is currently the case.

For more information and resources on this topic, please visit our Online Safety page:

<https://www.itchenabbasprimary.co.uk/page/?title=Online+Safety+%2D+Including+Smartphones&pid=75>

We appreciate your support in this initiative to create an even safer learning environment for our children. This decision follows your feedback from the recent survey and we will continue to offer support and guidance in the coming months on ways to help your child navigate ever changing technology. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to come and speak to me.

Kind regards

Mr. R Bogan
Headteacher



SUPPORTING
CONNECTING
INFLUENCING

