



Diggers Forest School

1f Revision A

Mobile phone and social networking

At Diggers Forest School we promote the safety and welfare of all children in our care. We believe our staff should be completely attentive during their hours of working to ensure all children in the school receive good quality care and education. To ensure the safety and well-being of children we do not allow staff to use personal mobile phones during working hours, except for whilst on outings for matters relating solely to Diggers Forest School such as an accident or incident. Having use of a mobile phone during an outing must be agreed in advance with either the Manager or Provider. We use mobile phones supplied by the school to provide a means of contact in certain circumstances, such as outings. One mobile phone will be used during the school day. This mobile belongs to and is registered to Diggers Forest School. The mobile phone will be used for: parental contact, emergency service calls and business communications.

We require our staff to be responsible and professional in their use of social networking sites in relation to any connection to the school, school staff, parents or children. We ask parents and visitors to respect and adhere to our policy.

Staff must adhere to the following:

- Mobile phones are either turned off or on silent and not accessed during your working hours except when needed for an outing, eg; visit to Lordington Lavender or Harting Stores
- Mobile phones can only be used on a designated break and then this must be away from the children
- Mobile phones should be stored safely in the school office at all times during the hours of your working day
- During outings, staff will use mobile phones belonging to the school wherever possible. Photographs must not be taken of the children on any phones, either personal or school owned
- Smart watches and fit bits may be worn and used by staff so long as they do not contain cameras.
- Staff must not post anything on to social networking sites such as Facebook that could be construed to have any impact on the school's reputation or relate to the school or any children attending the school in any way
- Staff must not post anything on to social networking sites that could offend any other member of staff or parent using the school
- If staff choose to allow parents to view their page on social networking sites this relationship must remain professional at all times
- If any of the above points are not followed then the member of staff involved will face disciplinary action, which could result in dismissal.

Parents' and visitors' use of mobile phones and social networking

Whilst we recognise that there may be emergency situations which necessitate the use of a mobile telephone, in order to ensure the safety and welfare of children in our care and share information about the child's day, parents and visitors are kindly asked to refrain from using their mobile telephones whilst in the school or when collecting or dropping off their children.

We promote the safety and welfare of all staff and children and therefore ask parents and visitors not to post publicly or privately information about any child on social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter. We ask all parents and visitors to follow this policy to ensure that information about children, images and information do not fall into the wrong hands.

Parents/visitors are invited to share any concerns regarding inappropriate use of social media through the official procedures (please refer to the partnership with parents policy, complaints procedures and grievance policy)'.
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This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the school	Date for review
<i>1 January 2022</i>	<i>Alex Levitt</i>	<i>January 2023</i>

Revised 7th Nov 2021

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