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ELLIS  
GUILFORD  
SCHOOL  
*Creative  
Education  
Trust*

17<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Ellis Guilford School Mobile Phone Policy**

I am sure you will join me in acknowledging that mobile phones are a privilege for our children. Indeed, there was a time when mobile phones (including smartphones) were not so readily available.

Mobile phones are a distraction for our children; they take their attention away from learning. There is a great deal of research into the negative impact that they have on our children's mental health.

We often find ourselves dealing with incidents that have started via social media, overwhelmingly accessed via their mobile phone. These incidents have usually started whilst children are not in school.

### **Our expectations:**

We allow children to bring a mobile phone into school for use on the journey to and from school should they need to contact an adult. **This is a privilege.** There are a number of schools where mobile phones are not allowed to be brought into school at all.

**Once in school, mobile phones are not to be seen or heard. They must remain away until children leave the school grounds at the end of the day.**

This is to protect our children and to ensure that their focus is entirely on learning; both in the classroom and whilst interacting with others at break and lunch time. **If mobile phones are seen or heard, they will be confiscated.**

Confiscated mobile phones will be taken to reception. Children will be able to collect these from main reception at the end of the day. If children refuse to give their mobile phone to the member of staff, there will be a significant sanction. For repeated cases, mobile phones will be detained by the school until parents/carers can attend a meeting to discuss the concerns raised by repeated mobile phone use. The privilege of bringing a mobile phone to school in their bag, will be removed.

At the Ellis Guilford School, our aim is to ensure an excellent education for our children. To support them achieving their dream job, to earn well and to be good people. There is also strong research into the positive impact that the removal of mobile phones can have on children's academic outcomes.

I'd like to thank you in anticipation of your support,

Mrs Johnson  
Principal