



School Lane, Yateley, Hampshire, GU46 6NN  
Executive Headteacher: Miss J Redman

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Parents,

At the end of the last academic year, a group of headteachers from schools from the Eversley, Yateley and Hawley area came together to discuss a united approach to the growing concerns around smartphone use among children. This collaboration reflects our shared commitment to supporting young people's wellbeing and helping families navigate the challenges of screen time and digital pressures.

Together, as a collective of schools, we are exploring ways to reduce the peer pressure children feel to own smartphones and to support parents in managing screen time at home.

Research continues to show worrying trends: the average UK 12-year-old now spends 29 hours a week on their phone, and a quarter of 5–7-year-olds already own a device. Early smartphone use has been linked to poorer mental health outcomes which is why we believe a collective response is needed.

While we are not anti-technology, we are all united in our commitment to promoting positive mental health and safeguarding. We believe that by working together, schools and families can find better solutions to this complex issue.

What are we proposing?



Currently, in our school, mobile phones are permitted in Year 5 and Year 6 as a parental choice to enable communication after school when walking home. Even then, if children bring a mobile phone into school, they must abide by our Mobile Phone Agreement which includes keeping them switched off whilst on the school sites. As part of our joint effort, we would like to hear your thoughts on how we can shape our policies to best serve all children across our schools.

Please take a few minutes to complete our short survey [School Smartphone Survey – e-safety](#). Your feedback will be reviewed by our governors and leadership teams across our local schools and will help guide our next step.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Jo Redman  
Executive Headteacher



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