

Beancross Primary School
Mobile Phone & Personal Smart Device
Position Statement
February 2026



At Beancross Primary School, our priority is to create a safe, nurturing environment where children can engage fully in their learning and social development. The *Scottish Government's Mobile Phone Guidance (2024)* highlights the necessity of clear expectations to support wellbeing, reduce digital distractions, and promote positive relationships. In our primary setting, personal mobile phones are not required for educational purposes during the school day.

Aims

- To ensure learning remains free from unnecessary digital distractions.
- To safeguard the wellbeing and privacy of all learners.
- To promote responsible, face-to-face social interaction.
- To provide clear boundaries for staff, families, and pupils in line with national.

School-Owned Devices (iPads)

We advocate for the purposeful use of technology to enhance the curriculum. It is important to distinguish between personal devices and school-managed technology:

- Purpose: School iPads are used under direct teacher supervision to access specific learning resources.
- Environment: These devices are configured to prevent access to social media and personal messaging, ensuring they remain a tool for learning rather than a distraction.
- Digital Literacy: Using school devices allows our learners to develop vital digital skills in a safe, moderated professional context.

Pupil Expectations - Personal Devices
Mobile Phones

Personal phones should only be brought to school if required for travel safety (walking/bus to and from school). If a child carries a phone for this reason, it must be switched off before entering the school grounds and remain off until they leave at the end of the day.

Storage and Responsibility

- All mobile phones must be kept switched off and stored in school bags.
- The school accepts no responsibility for the loss, damage, or theft of any personal devices brought onto the premises. Devices are brought to school entirely at the owner's personal risk.

Smartwatches & Wearable Technology

Smartwatches with cellular, messaging, web-browsing, or camera functions are treated under the same expectations as mobile phones.

- If a smartwatch is worn, all communication functions must be disabled so it operates only as a basic timepiece.
- Where functions cannot be disabled, the device must be switched off and stored in a school bag as per the procedure in Section 4.

Misuse and Confiscation

In line with national guidance, staff will not search a pupil. However, if a device is used in breach of this position, a staff member will request the device be handed over. Confiscated devices will be stored securely, and parents will be notified to collect the device from the school office.

If a pupil will not hand over their device, their parent will be asked to attend at the school to collect the device from their child.

Safeguarding and Online Behaviour

Any inappropriate use of personal devices, including bullying or the unauthorised capturing or sharing of images, will be treated seriously and addressed in line with our Safeguarding and *Relationship & Behaviour* policies.

Emergency Contact

In an emergency, children must alert a member of staff who will facilitate contact with home. Parents/carers should always contact the school office directly and must not attempt to message their child's personal device during the school day.

Equality and Inclusion

We recognise that some learners with additional support needs may require access to a specific device as part of their individual learning or medical plan. These cases will be planned individually as part of the Team Around the Child process.

Andrew Watson
Headteacher

Stephanie Macfarlane
Depute Headteacher

Created: January 2025
Updated: February 2026